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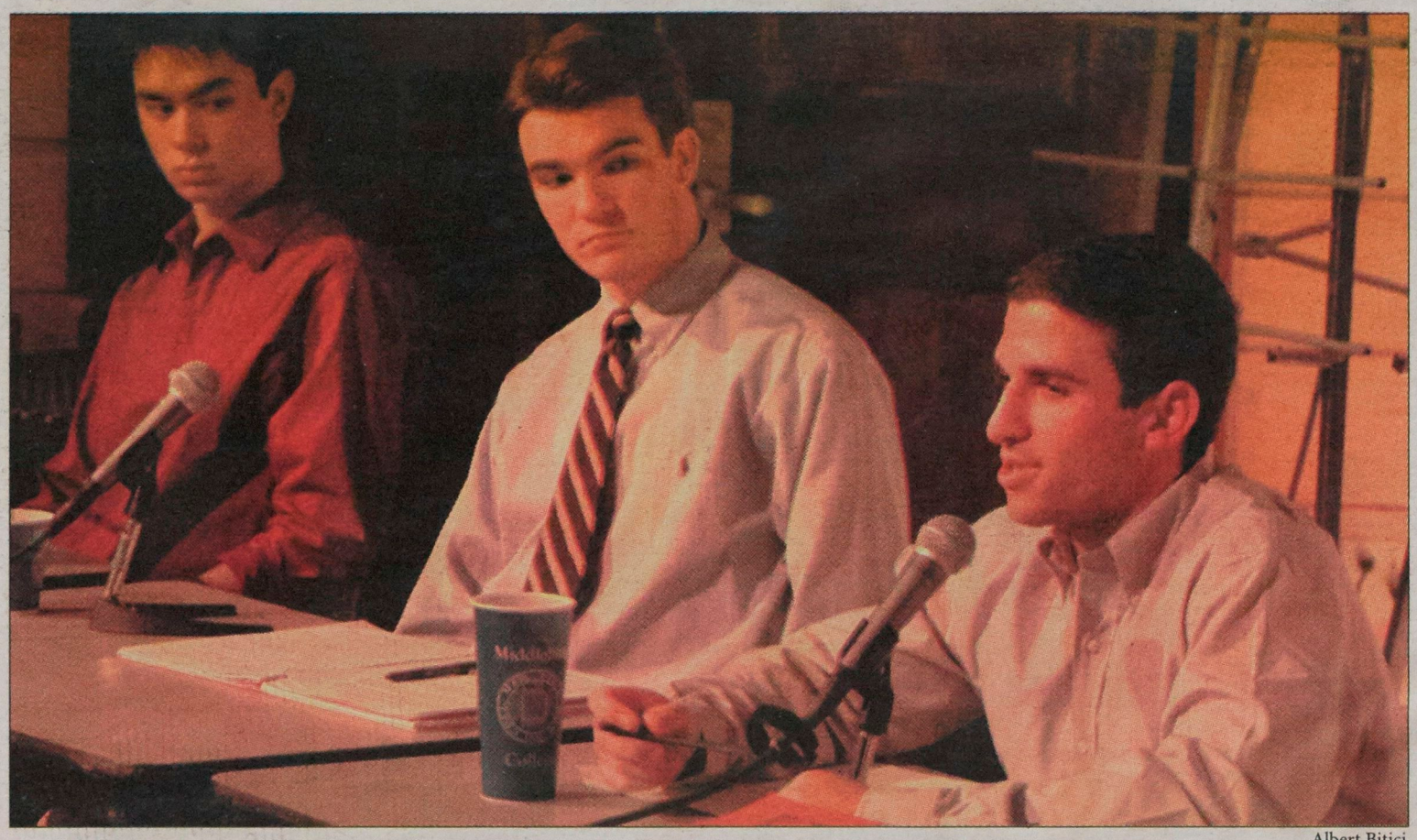
Candidates square off in close race



Albert Bitici

J.S. Woodward '06 and Jimmy Hickey '05 look on as Andrew Jacobi '05 speaks at Monday's SGA candidate debates. Online polls open noon Thursday.

Hickey, Jacobi vie for undecided voters as election nears

By Elizabeth Campbell
Staff Writer

The candidate debate for Student Government Association (SGA) president and student co-chair of Community Council on Monday night gave students the first real glimpse of the presidential campaigns since the two candidates — Andrew Jacobi '05 and Jimmy Hickey '05 — were approved on April 11. The lack of campaigning thus far has sparked criticism from many students and has raised questions concerning the legitimacy of the forthcoming elections, scheduled to take place this Thursday and Friday. But while J.S. Woodward '06 has had little reason to campaign extensively for the uncontested position of student co-chair of Community Council (SCCOCC), his one-man bid has prompted some students to question the effectiveness and necessity of the SCCOCC position in the first place. Since there is only one candidate to suggest proposals for next year, many students have begun to wonder whether their interests can be adequately represented.

In a poll conducted on April 23 and April 24, 62 out of 193 students surveyed said they did not plan on voting in the upcoming SGA election.

"Without large activity on the part of the candidates, people might not remember so readily to vote," said SGA Director of Membership Courtney Taylor '04. But regardless of student sentiment, current members of the SGA do not seem to be worried about the apparent lack of knowledge on the part of the student body.

Jacobi Pushes Fresh Ideas

Andrew Jacobi '05 said that he has remained busy over the past few weeks campaigning for the SGA presidency.

He has posted fliers in dorms and hung up banners around campus "both to catch people's attention and to show people that I don't take myself too seriously." Indeed, the campaign tactic that seems to have generated the most attention so far is Jacobi's slogan broadcasting that he is "the Jew for you."

Jacobi has additionally met with student organizations on

See Campaigns, page 4

Rowdy antics close Hamlin

By Caroline Stauffer
News Editor

In response to student belligerency, unruly behavior and food fighting on Sunday evening, Hamlin Dining Hall will be closed for Sunday dinner for the remainder of the semester, according to Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette.

"There is a bit of cause and effect regarding a party at the A-frames on Sunday," said Biette, who returned to the news of the ruckus after a weeklong vacation. "There was a much higher price to the 'fun' than our normal course of business."

Dining Administration and Technology Lead John Nordmeyer happened to stop by his office above Hamlin Sunday evening with the intention of "keeping an eye on things downstairs." Nordmeyer had received reports from staff all semester that "things were getting out of control on Sunday evenings."

Shortly after arriving, he heard a shout of "Food fight!"

"I hurried downstairs where I found one student standing on a table in the middle of the dining room using a tray as a shield as food was being thrown at him from several directions," Nordmeyer said. After falling off the table and receiving threats of being thrown out of the dining hall for the rest of the semester, the student promised Nordmeyer that it would not happen again.

Similar incidents did, however, occur throughout the course of the evening. Nordmeyer noted that one student tried three times to get by him and eventually snuck out the back entrance only to re-enter the dining hall and continue throwing food. Another student chucked a chicken finger directly at a high school salad bar worker. Nordmeyer also received belligerent comments from students such as, "What, I'm not allowed to eat this? Do you have a problem with me eating this?"

"Nothing helped the situation — the presence of a security guard, my continuing pleas to individuals to stop throwing food, et cetera," Nordmeyer said. "Students were outright rude to me, refusing to give their names when I had seen them throwing food, 'pretending' to throw food just to keep me guessing."

Suzanne Czerniak '06 was sitting in the back room of the dining hall when the fighting broke out. "From where I was sitting, it looked like most people were trying to eat dinner in peace. No one was doing anything to incite or stop the food fighting," she said.

See Food Fight, page 5

100+ Middkids march in D.C. on Sunday

By Lynn Gray
Staff Writer

On Sunday, April 25, 500,000 to one million demonstrators gathered on the National Mall in Washington D.C., to show support for women's reproductive rights and other human rights issues. Among the participants were approximately 100 Middlebury students. The "March for Women's Lives" is considered to have been one of the largest demonstrations to have ever taken place in the United States capital, and is the first large scale pro-choice march since 1992.

The event drew feminists and activists from all over the United States and approximately 60 foreign countries. Demonstrators called for equal access to health care, racial and gender equality and the protection of women's right to legal, safe abortions. Close to a third of the participants were students. Kelsey Smith '07, a member of the Middlebury contingent, felt the 10-hour drive to D.C. was well worth it. "Our generation doesn't take advantage of activist opportunities," she said.

Foreign activist leaders were responding to the extensive impact of U.S. reproductive polices on other countries. The fact of the matter has been disputed, but it is generally held

See Pro-Choice, page 20

Courtesy/Kelly Hines

Co-president of Feminist Action at Middlebury Elizabeth Brookbank '04 joined hundreds of thousands of pro-choice marchers in Washington, D.C., on Sunday.

MIDDBRIEFS

BY DANIEL PHILLIPS, BEN SALKOWE AND VIRGINIA HARPER

Wonnacott appoints new faculty heads

The Office of the President recently appointed Will Nash, associate professor of American literature and civilization, and Deb Evans, visiting assistant professor in the same department, as the new faculty heads of Wonnacott Commons for next year. Nash and Evans will succeed Professor of History of Art and Architecture Cynthia Atherton and her husband, Scott Atherton, in running the commons office. As faculty heads, Nash and Evans will coordinate the office and plan academic events such as chaplain's forums and lectures, noted Wonnacott CRA Freeman White '03.

"The biggest change will be the new professors' area of interest," noted White, "which mainly changes the focus of the academic events. I know people are looking forward to having them be a part of the commons," he said.

Although Commons Dean Matt Longman was not directly involved in the selection process, he said he was "extremely pleased as to the selection."

Midd CUPPS cancelled

Exhausted by costs of replacing cups and dishware, Dining Services has discontinued its funding of the "Can't Use Paper, Plastic or Styrofoam" (CUPPS) program. For several years the program issued reusable plastic mugs to first-year students to discourage cup theft and paper waste.

"We have not budgeted the CUPPS mugs as they were discontinued by the student body. The student body preferred to use the plastic tumblers known to many as 'Proctor Cups'," said Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette. He added that many commons also provide Nalgene bottles and were duplicating the efforts of CUPPS.

The decision by Dining Services not to fund the program was made last year, but mugs had already been purchased for the Class of 2007.

Campus Sustainability Coordinator Connie Bisson was hopeful that the program might be continued with new backing. "Environmental Affairs would like to see the CUPPS program continue as it promotes reuse over disposables, but the means to finance the cost of these mugs in the future has not yet been determined," she said.

Biette echoed her sentiments, adding, "Were someone to split the costs, I bet we could find some money somewhere in the budget. Were students not wasting away my budgets with total disregard, there [might] be even more [money]."

Yellow Bikes lose locks

According to an all-student e-mail sent last week by Public Safety for student coordinators of the Yellow Bike Program, the yellow bikes that appear around dining halls, dorms and academic buildings will become lock-free for the duration of the year. Previously, students had been required to pay an annual fee of $6 for which they received membership to the co-op and a key that gave them access to the 35 bikes that it owns. After a large number of student requests, the bikes are being made available to the entire student body. The e-mail also warned students against neglecting the complementary bicycles and urged students to be more responsible with them. Broken and damaged yellow bikes littered campus during fall semester, so coordinators are now trying to offer the service to the student body while at the same time cutting down on expensive and easily avoidable repair costs.

"Please do not abuse them and if you find a damaged bike do not continue to ride it, as this only amplifies the problem," said Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah. "We understand that students wish there were more yellow bikes on campus. However, the bikes are not disposable goods." Middlebury began the academic year with 35 yellow bikes on campus. With some now missing, Boudah's message promised an increase in the number of bikes available to students next year if all were recovered by May.

Boudah also asked that students contact the Yellow Bike coordinator Hilary Eisen to report damaged bikes.

CORRECTION

Last week's article "Smoking ban to kick butts out of Vermont bars" reported that New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani had banned smoking in all New York City bars. It was actually Mayor Michael Bloomberg who passed thelaw banning smoking in all public areas. Giuliani's earlier measure had banned cigarettes in all restaurants with more than 35 seats.

Posse program expands

Courtesy

This year's commencement marks the graduation of the second Posse class. After five succesful years, the Posse Foundation, headquartered in New York, recently expanded national offices and increased enrollment.

Successful five years prompt program expansion

By Amanda Goodwin

Staff Writer

The Posse Foundation, which brings together student leaders from public, inner-city high schools and trains them for enrollment at highly selective colleges and universities, has recently undergone a drastic national expansion, due to the success of programs like the one at Middlebury.

Posse founder and President Deborah Bial has been particularly pleased with the Middlebury Posse program, which recruits students from the New York City area. "We really consider Middlebury College to be the model Posse community, and it continues to be a tremendous partner," she said.

On a physical level the Posse Foundation has expanded across the country, taking over an entire wing of a Wall Street building in New York City, retaining its Boston offices and extending its organizational structure to Chicago and Los Angeles, with a Washington, D.C., headquarters launch date set for May 19. Posse's physical growth has also fostered greater institutional changes by increasing its member base, programming and advising network.

This fall, the Posse Foundation anticipates an increased 230 Posse scholar recruits, and will consequently train more mentors to accommodate the expansion in conjunction with Posse's 19 college and university partners. According to Bial, the organization plans to open up offices in five more cities over the next 15 years, a move that would sustain the increased number of annual recruits and partner colleges. The Foundation will also continue to host "Posse Plus" retreats, an opportunity for Posse members and other faculty, staff and students to learn about and spread cultural diversity and awareness.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Marichal Gentry became involved with the Posse program in 1999 and served as the mentor for Posse 2 — this year's graduating seniors. He described the great receptiveness on campus to the Posse mission and noted the visibility of the Posse leaders as student organization presidents, Watson Scholars and future employees of such organizations as Lehman Brothers and Teach for America. Gentry also emphasized the strong commitment that each Posse graduate demonstrates to the organizational mission: "There is a certain level of responsibility that Posse students must assume, balancing their school work and dedication to Posse's mission. The Posse students at Middlebury have truly fulfilled this mission, and have left the campus a better place than they found it," he said.

We really consider Middlebury College to be the model Posse community, and it continues to be a tremendous partner.

— Deborah Bial, Posse president

John LoPresto '07, a member of Middlebury Posse 5, cherished his experience with the Posse program, and since his arrival this fall, he has become actively involved with Community Friends, moqa, the Student Leadership Committee and will even serve as a Residential Advisor for the upcoming academic year. "I have learned how to work and be productive with a group of unique individuals. Each member of my 12-person Posse has touched my life in some way or another, and I feel that we learn from each other every day," LoPresto said. "My Posse has served as a strong support group, and I know that every one of them is there for me if I need them. They have taught me how to be a great facilitator and listener. Our mentor, Miguel Fernandez, has also helped me along the way."

Anna Rita Pergolizzi '04, a member of Gentry's Posse 2, also praised the program, describing the benefits and opportunities she derived. "Posse has been a blessing for not only me, but for my family as well. If it weren't for Posse, my brother and I would not have been able to afford such an amazing school and opportunity," she said.

Accordingly, there exists widespread support among the Posse community for the continued expansion of the organization. "Expanding Posse means that more students like me, who have the ability to excel in such elite schools but are unable to attend them because of various societal reasons, will be afforded the opportunity to thrive and receive a diploma from places that they deserved to be at in the first place," said Pergolizzi.

LoPresto concurred, "The expansion of the Posse Foundation is a wonderful notion. Middlebury has worked with Posse for its fifth year now, and the face of this campus has changed greatly. A few things that come to mind are the creation of the Cheerleading Team and Breakdancing Club, both members of Posse 2, and the recipients of the Angels Award — a member of Posse 2 [Crystal Belle '04] and Posse 4 [Charzetta Nixon '06]. With more and more colleges deciding to become part of the Posse family, campuses all across this country will get a long-awaited face-lift."

Pergolizzi concluded, "Posse's mission, which hopes to place strong high school students in colleges that will enable them to reach positions of leadership in this ever-growing diversified world, is met every time a student graduates. The more schools embrace Posse and its mission, the more the real world attains leaders to represent them."

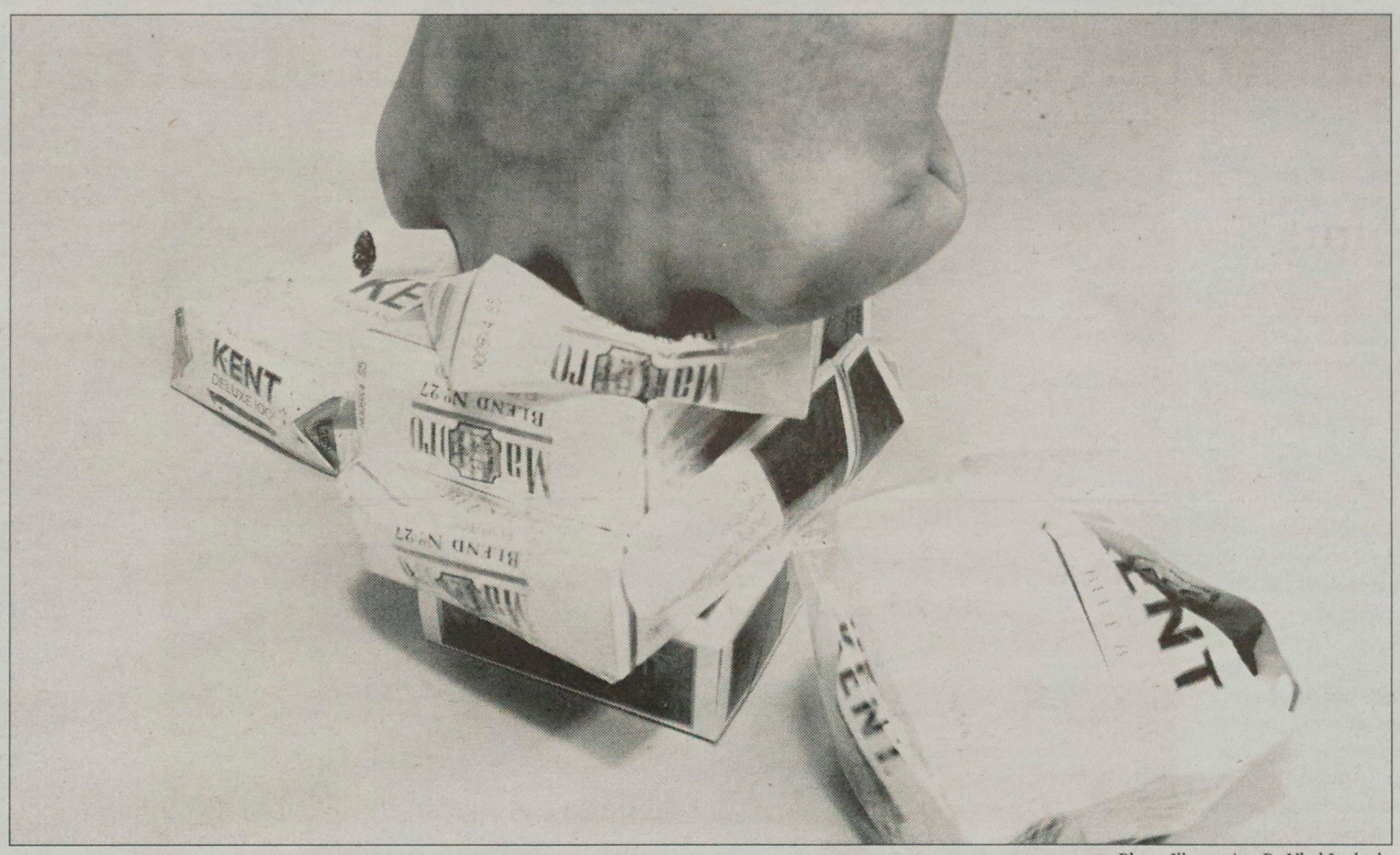


Photo Illustration By Vlad Lodoaba

SGA weighs in on smoking ban

McCardell seeks input from student representatives

By Thomas Drescher
News Editor

President John McCardell attended Sunday night's Student Government Association (SGA) weekly meeting to discuss a potential smoking ban in residential spaces. McCardell called Sunday's proceedings "extremely beneficial," and noted that he has not yet made up his mind to go ahead with the ban, which would be based entirely on liability and fire safety concerns.

McCardell, who first announced his intention to unilaterally prohibit smoking in dorm rooms at a Community Council meeting last week, was urged by the Council to seek the SGA's input. He reiterated Sunday that such a decision "clearly falls within the implied powers of office," and emphasized that the ban would not be "an absolute prohibition of smoking on campus."

McCardell noted that while College policies regarding alcohol and cars, among other things, "tend toward the permissive rather than the restrictive," smoking in residence halls poses an undeniable safety risk to the community and should be regulated accordingly.

SGA representative and presidential candidate Jimmy Hickey '05 questioned whether the proposed smoking ban would actually improve fire safety and suggested instead an increase in fire safety devices and a number of other measures that he expected would more effectively reduce the risk of fires.

McCardell also mentioned the possibility of establishing a residence hall exclusively for smokers along with the ban to avoid alienating student smokers.

SGA President Sam Rodriguez '04 spoke up loudly in opposition to the potential ban, arguing that cigarettes are much less dangerous than other burning objects currently prohibited by College policy. He predicted that enforcement of a smoking ban would "create more headaches for Public Safety officers" and further damage to student-Public Safety relations." In response to liability concerns, Rodriguez said that students should be expected to assume responsibility for their actions as preparation for the real world, and recommended a policy adjustment that would neither explicitly permit nor forbid smoking in residential spaces.

Rodriguez summarized his stance by calling the proposed ban a "horrible, horrible idea."

Inter-House Council Senator Mike Vilarello '05 handed out documents outlining the smoking policies at some of Middlebury's peer institutions. Most NESCAC schools allow smoking in dorms, Bowdoin and Williams being the only exceptions.

"We have to remember how thoroughly divided the campus was about this issue last year, said Sophomore Senator Kathrin Schwesinger '06, adding that she thinks fire safety is the most "rational argument" for a smoking ban.

McCardell acknowledged last year's proceedings regarding a potential smoking ban in dorm rooms and explained that "rejection of the recommendation [not to ban smoking] would have been untimely and inappropriate."

Assistant Director of Public Safety Melody Perkins said that there have been a number of small fires caused by students failing to extinguish cigarettes properly. In all cases, the fires caused minor damage and were extinguished quickly, but Perkins explained that because of these incidents "the Department of Public Safety recognizes smoking in residential space as a fire hazard."

"An educational component...would increase the effectiveness of [the ban]," said Perkins, who added that she expects Public Safety will be involved in enforcement discussions if such a ban is implemented, but that it is currently too soon to say what exactly "enforcement" would entail.

President McCardell has not yet made up his mind to go ahead with the ban, which would be based entirely on liability and fire safety concerns.

"Enforcement of fire safety rules is facilitated with the assistance of fellow residents, residential staff, custodial staff and a variety of college officials," she said.

Despite some vigorous discussion, opposition to the ban among SGA and Community Council member is limited. SGA representatives plan to discuss the matter further at next week meeting. It is unclear if and when McCardell will make a decision.

"Let's just say 'to be continued'," he said as he prepared to leave Sunday's meeting.

Committee considers a J-Term at Harvard

By Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor

After reviewing its undergraduate curriculum, Harvard University has concluded that students need more room for broad exploration, increased study abroad and a more thorough understanding of science. This conclusion was reached after a committee of administrators, professors and students spent 15 months studying the current curriculum. Faculty will discuss the recommendations over the next year. Some changes will require a formal vote before implementation. It is hoped that any changes made will be in place for students arriving in 2006.

The Curricular Review Committee recommended that students be given more time to choose majors, that the majors have limited requirements, that students be encouraged to study abroad and that the number of required science courses be increased. The Committee said broad-based survey courses should no longer be sufficient to satisfy the science requirement — instead students should focus on scientific methods and principles. The report suggested that the core curriculum be modified so that students have a broader choice of courses. It also advised Harvard to emphasize smaller classes across the curriculum, starting with a faculty-led freshman seminar. This is to encourage more faculty-student interactions, which might be difficult at an institution where research often takes precedence over teaching.

On Jan. 26, Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry drafted an opinions submission to *The Crimson* explaining why Harvard might benefit from such an "academic change of pace." "Many things take place during Middlebury's J-Term," said Dry. "Some students do internships and some departments have comprehensive exams. Many departments also do recruiting at that time. Harvard may be aware of much of this."

The curricular review is one of President Lawrence H. Summer's major initiatives. It reflects his focus on undergraduate education. This is the first time in 30 years that Harvard's undergraduate curriculum has been reviewed. The most recent curricular reviews held by Harvard in the 1940s and the 1970s were seen as groundbreaking. Experts in higher education are reportedly eager to study Harvard's newest recommendations.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY MEGAN O'KEEFE

"Avoid at all costs American-style gathering points (e.g., fast-food restaurants)."

Printed in oversized font on a poster that hangs prominently in Middlebury's center in Paris, this advice helpfully points out how students can disguise their American-ness and insulate themselves from the risks of Europe's growing terror threat. But, trust me, it isn't McDonald's that is giving us away. In fact, it is quite the opposite. Try New Balance, cotton shorts, a portable MP3 player and the act of publicly breaking a sweat. That's right: jogging.

In order to even consider taking up the activity, you have to be prepared for extreme humiliation. Every person you pass, with the exception of other American joggers, will consider you both foolish and ridiculous.

The greatest mistake a novice Parisian runner can make is to assume that any park or un-crowded neighborhood sidewalk is an appropriate track. Wearing shorts and showing any sign of physical exertion on the streets of Paris will have you running...right back home to hide. I learned this the hard way. On my first jog through my neighborhood park, I noticed something was not right when the graying group playing *Pétangue* — a bocce-like contest that is, for all intents and purposes, the official recreational sport of French middle-aged men — looked up from their balls and started shaking their heads in disgust. The fact that a French outdoor magazine recently featured a chair on a list of recommended *Pétangue* equipment goes a long way to explain the kinds "physicality" these men respect in their sports. I only made it another five feet before a well-dressed woman sitting lazily on a park bench with a terrier parked at her feet got the message across, "*Allez. Vas-y mon pote!*" While her words — "Go! Go my friend!"— may sound like supportive chant of encouragement, her tone definitely screamed, "Boy, you *really* look like an idiot."

Once you find a suitable running location where you can mix among other joggers, you will be overwhelmed with feelings of self-confidence and physical prowess. Sure, the other Americans may leave you in the dust, but the handful of French runners who are testing out the sport — they can be easily identified by the circa 1992 nylon jogging suit broken out for this occasion — have not been briefed on optimal running speed. You may not think that running more slowly than you walk is physically possible, but I have seen it in the *Bois de Boulogne*. Now, I do not want to sound like I am criticizing the French definition of outdoor sports and physical fitness. Really, I'm not. You should see those roller bladers performing stunts and smoking cigarettes all at the same time. Talk about coordination!

Presidential hopefuls adopt laid-back strategy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

campus, giving him the chance to talk to students involved in the school with informed opinions on a lot of issues. He also began visiting residence halls Tuesday night to give students a better sense of his ideas and to promote his campaign.

"For the past couple of weeks, I've really tried to get my name out there. I think campaigning is always a big deal in SGA presidential elections. Since most students don't go to the SGA website to check out our platforms, campaigning really gives [us] a chance to get out there and convey our ideas and personalities to people, which is something I have really enjoyed doing."

The top priority of Jacobi's platform is therefore to bridge the gap between the SGA and both the student body and the administration by facilitating communication. In order to create an open dialogue among students and the SGA, Jacobi intends to send a weekly e-mail to students that would provide an overview of senate meetings and issues the administration is considering.

Academically, he is dedicated to securing greater student input in course offerings and providing new courses that the College currently deems too vocational. As an active member of Alpha Delta Phi, Jacobi strongly supports social houses and on-campus parties thrown by large student organizations in order to decrease the risk of drunk driving. He will push the College to subsidize alcohol for parties on campus.

During the candidate debates Monday night, the moderators questioned Jacobi's status as an SGA outsider, using the term "fresh blood" to emphasize his lack of experience. "I agree that the SGA doesn't need fresh blood," Jacobi fired back, "but it does need fresh ideas. I am a junior at Middlebury and have been here for three years. I am also a member of a varsity sports team, I serve on the Student Investment Club and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and have written for the newspaper. I wouldn't call that fresh blood."

He added further that "just because I have not been on the SGA does not mean that I am uninformed. I have gotten a feel for the structure of the SGA and what initiatives pass and what don't pass. I've educated myself on the processes of the SGA to make those happen."

Hickey Relies on Past SGA Experience

Hickey has taken a personal approach to his campaign over the last few days. His campaign philosophy has proved to be drastically different from his opponent's and from his predecessor's, but he nonetheless remains confident in his decisions.

Last week, he mailed about 2,000 hand-addressed cards to the student body to introduce his campaign slogan: "JIMMY-Term: What do you want the SGA to do for *you* next year?" Over the weekend, he hung up banners in select locations. The Hickey campaign team has also begun passing out a few of the 500 "hickey" temporary tattoos — "hickey"-shaped ovals that say "Vote for Jimmy" on them — that Hickey has created to promote his candidacy. As a final step in Hickey's campaign, he has begun to pass out his main flyer, which explicitly explains the connection between JIMMY-Term and J-Term and then outlines the important details of his platform.

As his main goal, Hickey seeks to increase involvement and to encourage the representatives of the SGA to accomplish practical initiatives. Specifically, Hickey has proposed changes in party registration policies to make it easier to host parties on campus, including fast TIPS training and same-day party registration.

In response to the question of whether or not social houses and the commons system can coexist at the debate on Monday night, Hickey responded that although the compatibility of these systems is currently in question, they will "definitely work if these changes are effected." Hickey's proposed changes to academic policies include faster final grade notification and a reassessment of P.E. credits policy.

At the debate, he also proposed a regular meeting of the leaders of student organizations on campus "to bring existing issues to the table that many leaders don't know about" and to generate new ideas.

Finally, Hickey also seeks a new role for the SGA in terms of its effectiveness as an organization that represents the desires of the student body

Addressing the controversy surrounding the relative lack of campaigning, Hickey emphasized his campaign philosophy to "let what I stand for speak for itself to the students. I am confident that the students who care will seek to know what the candidates stand for and what they are promising."

Hickey also highlighted his past experience with student government and his involvement with the Middlebury community as advantages in his campaign.

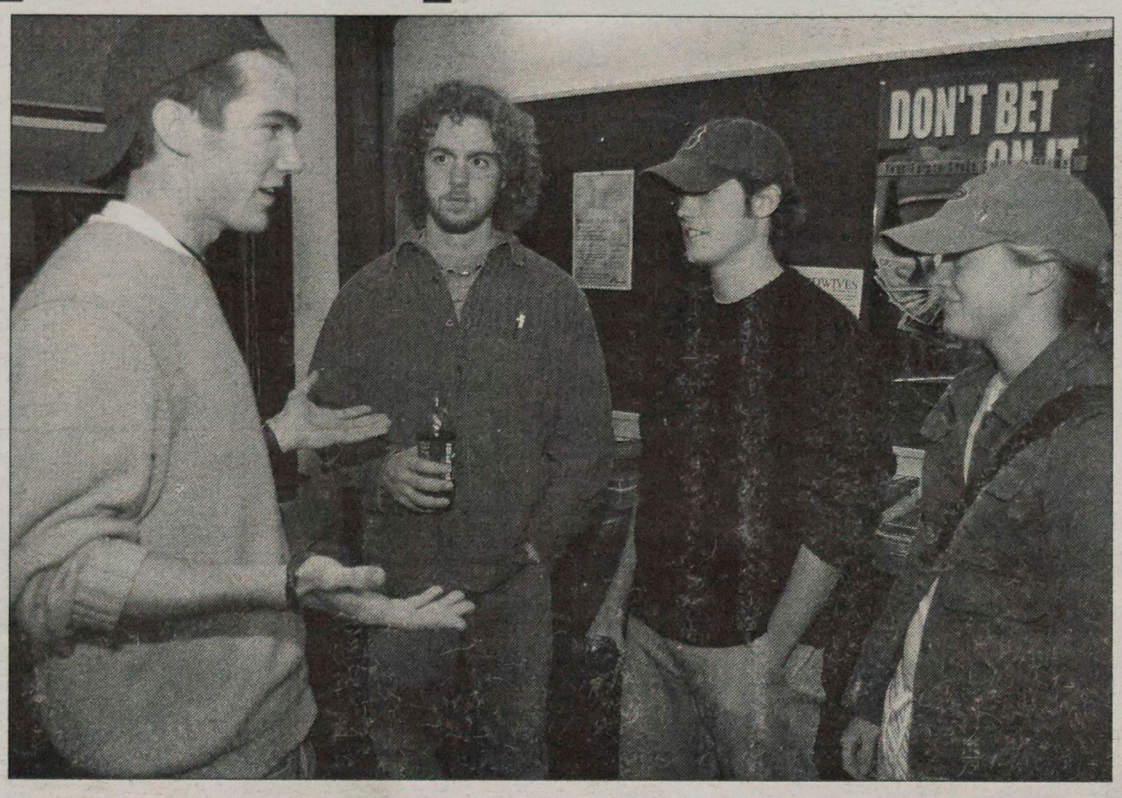
"Campaigning will be an important factor in winning the election this year for both of us. But unfortunately for my opponent, a long and pervasive campaign is necessary for him to win the election. If we can learn anything from [current SGA President] Sam Rodriguez's campaign last year and the outcome of the election, I think that Andrew's loss in the campaigning game is foreboding of his chances in the general election."

Woodward uncontested for SCCOCC

Despite a lack of competition, Woodward recognizes the need for better student representation by the SGA, and while he has not been campaigning extensively, he has put up several posters and visited dorms to gain a better idea of student perspectives. "Mostly I'm just going around and talking to people, letting them know what I'm trying to change while also trying to find out what issues they believe to be most pressing," Woodward explained.

Woodward has also noted the administration's concern that too many students are going off campus to party and, in response, he has engineered a plan to give students incentives to stay on campus. He proposes that registered parties stop serving alcohol at 2 a.m., instead of 1 a.m., the current time mandated by the administration, and that they stay open until 2:30 a.m. in order to give parties a change to "wind down before dispersing, which should decrease incidents with Public Safety."

He added in his statement of intent that "the commons system, although a powerful programming tool, is not the solution to all of the [College's] woes. Finally, as a current member of the Environmental Council, Woodward has resolved to continue to work on environmental initiatives like maintaining the Midd CUPPS program and endorsing the Carbon Reduction Initiative. "We need passionate representatives who want to make legitimate changes to make this community better, not politicians who answer a direct question with five minute monologues that don't even come close to answering the original questions."



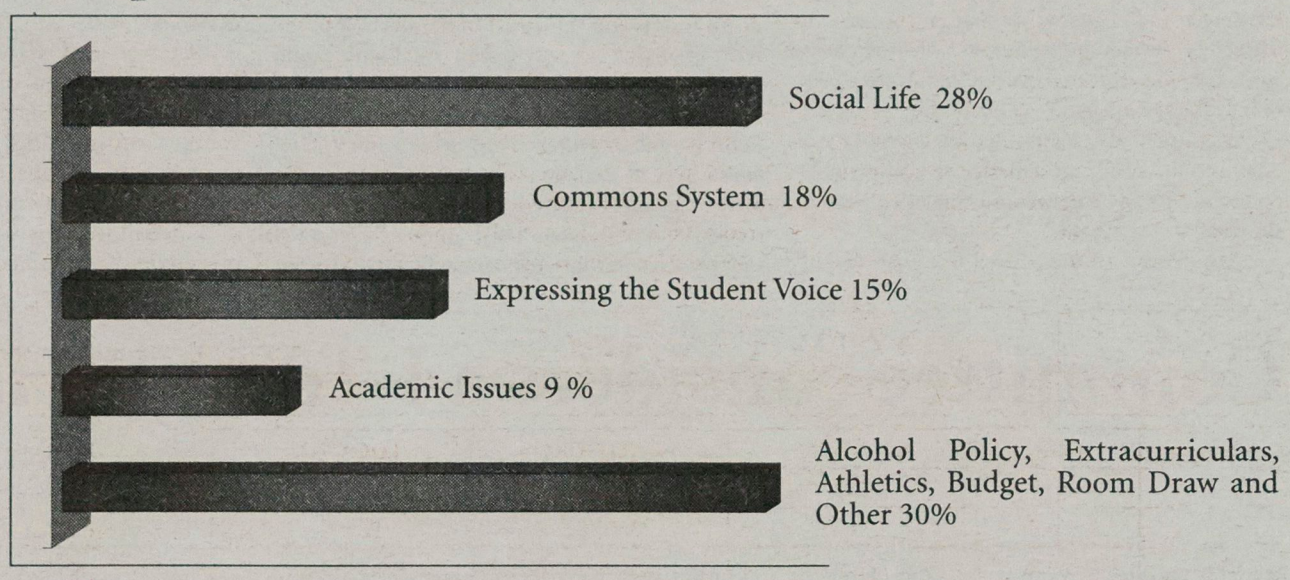
SGA Presidential candidate Jimmy Hickey '05 chats with potential voters in McCullough on Tuesday as his campaign enters the final stretch.

Photos by Vlad Lodoaba

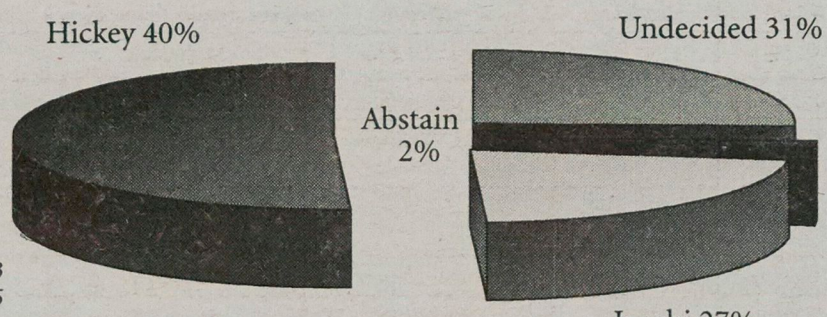
Vlad Lodoaba

SGA presidential hopeful Andrew Jacobi '05 (left) takes the door-to-door approach in his campaign.

Campus poll: What is the most important platform issue?

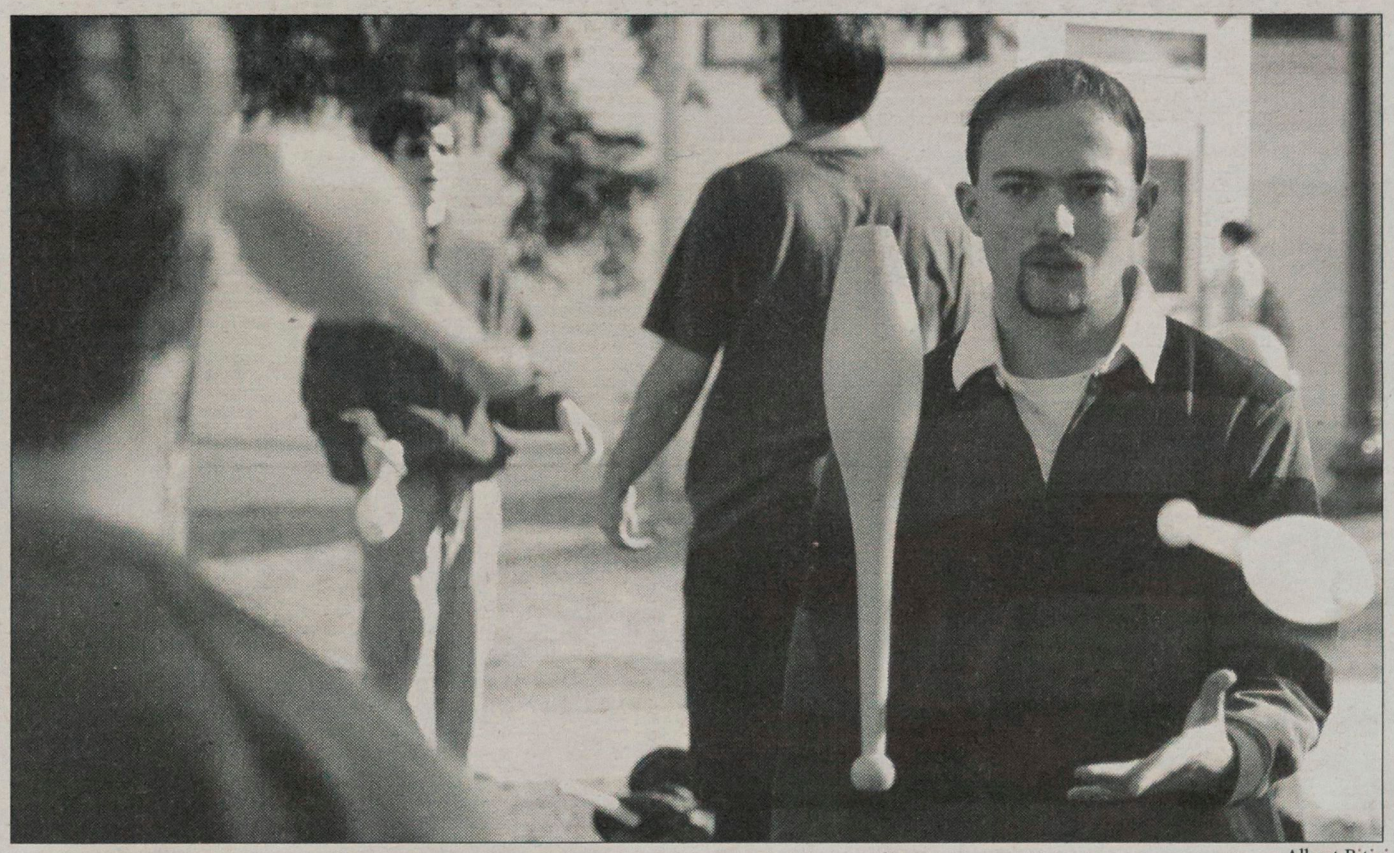

Social Life 28%
Commons System 18%
Expressing the Student Voice 15%
Academic Issues 9 %
Alcohol Policy, Extracurriculars, Athletics, Budget, Room Draw and Other 30%

Which presidential candidate will you choose?



Results compiled from polls of 193 students, conducted between April 25 and April 27. Figures represent students who plan on voting.

UP IN ARMS



Albert Bitici

Practicing outside, Paul Armstrong '04, a member of the Flying Fists Juggling Brigade, displays his pin-juggling prowess.

Food fight fries Hamlin Sunday night dinner tradition

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Sunday nights at Hamlin had become a "grease night" tradition for some, featuring French fries, mozzarella sticks and hamburgers.

"The menu we have served at Hamlin was a bit of a treat. It cost much more than most dinners," Biette noted. But he added that if the "code of silence," was broken and the responsible group came forward to take responsibility for their actions, he would not hesitate to re-open Hamlin for the remaining Sundays.

Currently, only three names have been linked to the incidents.

Nordmeyer said that Sunday evening was not an isolated incident and that similar misbehavior has been happening all semester — and getting progressively worse. He claimed that everyone in the dining hall Sunday evening was guilty, not just those participating in the food fight.

"It was a group mentality that allowed the situation to exist Sunday night," he said. "Why didn't the larger group of students (who weren't throwing food) get down on the rowdy few instead of laughing at the situation? Why didn't students write into *The Campus* earlier in the semester to complain that a few rude people were ruining what was supposed to be a 'treat?'"

I found one student standing on a table in the middle of the dining room using a tray as a shield as food was being thrown at him from several directions.

— John Nordmeyer

Dining hall staff reported to Biette that students then came to Hamlin Monday morning hung over, laughing about the incident at the previous night's dinner and requesting a special breakfast.

"These students ruined their relationship with the folks that care for them day-in and day-out. They broke the trust, friendship and any respect. And no, it was not funny at all," he said.

In response to the e-mail announcing the closure of Hamlin for the remainder of the year, Biette received many replies from the student population wanting to know why all students should pay for the poor conduct of a few.

"It's a shame that because things got out of control at the dining hall, they had to close it for the rest of us, especially around exam time when you need comfort food," Matthew Corrente '06.5 said. He called Hamlin's Sunday closure a "heinous deprivation of culinary consumption."

"I was very angry at first because I feel like it was punishing everyone for something a few people did, but after talking to dining staff I understand where they are coming from. I'm not sure this particular decision is effective," Rebecca Scholtz '06 said. "College students don't respond well to being punished for things they didn't do."

Biette also received an e-mail from a student expressing the belief that dining services should expect food fights as part of the College experience.

"I am sorry if I do not see the logic," Biette said. "And yes, I too was a student."

Ross and Proctor Dining Halls will remain open Sunday evenings, and staff that formerly worked in Hamlin on Sundays will work part of the day in Freeman to prepare meals for Monday, and then will head to Ross for dinner service.

public safety log

APRIL 20 2004 TO APRIL 26, 2004

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
4/20/04	2:30 p.m.	Theft	Specialized	McCullough	No Suspects
4/20/04	8:57 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
4/21/04	9:10 a.m.	Theft	Self Phone / Watch	Kenyon Arena	No Suspects
4/21/04	11:30 p.m.	Theft	Prescription Medication	Proctor	No Suspects
4/23/04	1:00 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	The Mill	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
4/24/04	11:25 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Kenyon Arena	MPD
4/24/04	11:40 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Kenyon Arena	MPD
4/24/04	11:50 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Residential and Academic/ Non Student	LaForce	Case Closed
4/25/04	10:18 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Battell Beach	Referred to Commons Dean
4/25/04	10:13	Vandalism	Window	Prescott (ADP)	Open
4/26/04	12:35 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Johnson Memorial	Referred to Commons Dean

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ANDREA GISSING

Hollywood cheers for UCLA piracy action

On Monday, the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) started using new software designed by computer scientists at UCLA to block online piracy. The software works by disconnecting from the campus network students who have been accused of trading copyrighted songs or movies, and reinstates them only after they have deleted the files in question.

The decision to use the software was made just weeks after administrators announced they would adopt harsher policies on intellectual property and file sharing. This move will hopefully streamline the time-consuming practice of responding to "cease-and-desist" orders sent by copyright holders who have identified cases of alleged piracy. Since July UCLA has received over 300 such notifications.

The new policy states that the first time students are accused of copyright violations, they will automatically lose Internet access. To regain their online privileges, not only must students delete the offending files, they must also sign a form in which they verify that the files have been removed — but without admitting to any copyright violations. Second-time offenders must do the same and also face disciplinary action from a dean who is automatically notified of the infraction by the software.

The movie industry, which is currently working on a plan to make similar software available to smaller colleges, has applauded the administration's move.

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Educa-*

Pricey textbooks prompt board investigation

Prompted by Gov. Rod Blagojevich, the Illinois Board of Higher Education is investigating the amount of money students spend on college textbooks. This study is in response to one performed by a California advocacy group that found textbooks to be "unreasonably expensive." The average University of California student spends about $900 on textbooks every year.

One reason why textbooks are so expensive is because of the new editions that are constantly being published. Also, many new textbooks include costly extras, such as CD-ROMS and workbooks, which increase book prices. Students, and professors often find this frustrating as these extras are rarely used.

However, those involved with publishing say that often it is the students themselves who push for new editions of textbooks. People today are accustomed to using websites and are often critical of textbooks that are not up to date. Subsequently there is a lot of pressure for new editions.

Source: U-Wire

As 13 years wind to an end,

By Edward Pickering
Associate Editor

When John McCardell acceded to the office of President of Middlebury College in September 1991, he was a stopgap measure, not a long-term solution. His predecessor, Timothy Light, had suddenly resigned, leaving the college in a lurch. An interim leader was needed until a permanent replacement could be found.

What began then as an "acting" presidency turned into a run of nearly 13 years. Now, on the verge of packing up and moving out of Old Chapel, McCardell takes stock of his past accomplishments and former challenges.

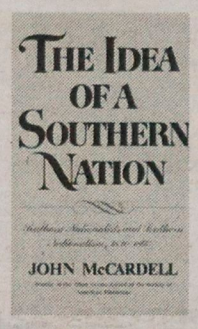
My challenge was to restore a sense of calm and order. — John McCardell

Does the man have any regrets?

"I regret little, I would change still less," said McCardell, quoting the poet Robert Browning. "Since there my past life lies, why alter it?"

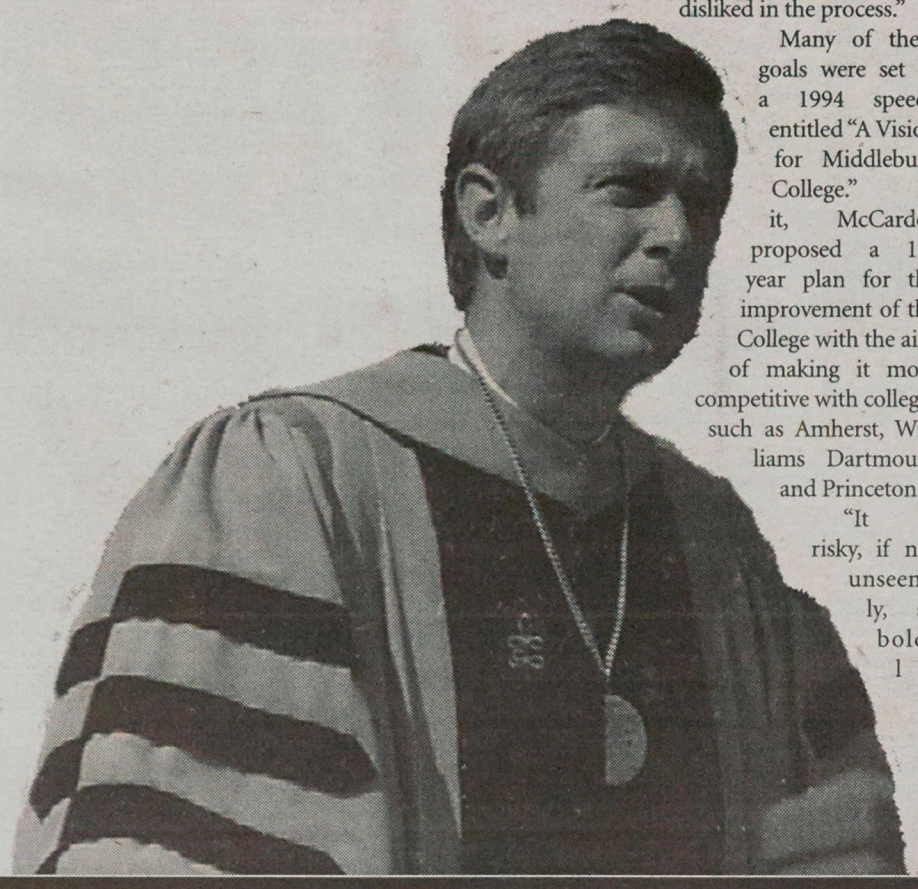
McCardell divides the successes of his administration into two categories — the short-term challenges that he faced and overcame in his first year and a half on the job and the long-term goals that he strove to meet in the following decade.

The shock of President Light's departure was preceded by a large and poorly managed layoff of support staff workers. Popular opinion held that the college was in deep financial trouble, and there existed a general sense that the institution lacked leadership. "My challenge," recalls McCardell, "was to restore a sense of order and calm."



The Board of Trustees rewarded McCardell's stewardship in April of 1992 when they dropped the "Acting" from his title: Acting President McCardell officially became President McCardell. "During that turbulent year," summarizes McCardell, "[the College] turned a corner."

Asked about his long-term accomplishments, McCardell reels off a lengthy list. "My greatest success," said McCardell, expatiating for a moment before addressing specifics, "has been to articulate, and then to lead the College in accomplishing an ambitious set of visionary goals, and not to have become distanced or detached or disliked in the process."



Many of these goals were set in a 1994 speech entitled "A Vision for Middlebury College." In it, McCardell proposed a 10-year plan for the improvement of the College with the aim of making it more competitive with colleges such as Amherst, Williams Dartmouth and Princeton.

"It is risky, if not unseemly, so boldly and baldly to identify one's competition so specifically," said McCardell. "We do so in order to lift our sights and to give us a new and higher standard of measurement for ourselves."

He continued to identify five "conspicuous peaks of excellence" of the College: language study, global understanding, environmental awareness, literary study and real-world application of the liberal arts.

Many of these visionary goals did indeed turn to reality under his tenure. The College has expanded to accommodate 2,350 students, up from 2,000 in 1991. At the same time it created 30 new faculty positions to maintain the low student/faculty ratio and witnessed an overall improvement in the quality and qualifications of the applicant pool creating an even more competitive admissions process.

The Summer Language School has added Portuguese to its roster and Bread Loaf now operates additional schools in Alaska and Mexico.

McCardell dedicated significant energies to student residential life, designing and promoting the "enhanced commons system" to create greater interaction between the academic and residential aspects of the liberal arts experience.

Meanwhile, the Panthers have achieved remarkable athletic success under his tenure, winning 20 national championships since 1995.

Self-discovery naturally attends positions of power, and McCardell is no exception.

Town/gown relations have improved, culminating in a new "fair-share" agreement in which the College will give up to $6.5 million to the town over the next 20 years.

In recent years, the upgrade of the physical plant has taken top priority. A slew of new buildings and structures, including Bicentennial Hall, the new Starr Library, Atwater and Ross Commons, The Grille, the ice rink, swimming pool and track, have sprung up.

But such aggressive construction has not damaged the institution financially. Thanks in great part to two massive fundraising campaigns — the Bicentennial Campaign, which netted $213 million, and the Challenge Campaign, $40 million — the endowment has tripled.

McCardell's successes certainly have not gone unacknowledged. The *Burlington Free Press* named him Vermonter of the Year for 2000. This honor was seconded by the state legislature who cited his achievement in "enhancing Middlebury College's reputation as one of the nation's most prestigious institutions of higher education."

Perhaps the single greatest conflict between students and the president occurred in the spring of 1998, after a string of incidents targeting minority groups on campus. Over 150 students flooded Old Chapel and McCullough lawn to protest what they considered McCardell's inadequate response to address mi-

John McCardell's Career

- 1971 — Graduates Phi Beta Kappa from Washington and Lee University
- 1976 — Earns PhD from Harvard. Joins history department at Middlebury.
- 1979 — Publishes "The Idea of a Southern Nation"
- 1985 — Appointed Dean of Academic Development and Planning
- 1988 — Named Dean of Faculty
- 1989 — Becomes Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- 1991 — Takes over as Acting President after resignation of Timothy Light
- 1992 — Elected and Inaugurated President of Middlebury College

McCardell takes a look back

nority issues on campus. Fallout from the event sparked the creation of the Office of Institutional Diversity, the establishment of Chellis House as a gender studies interest house and home to the Middlebury Openly Queer Alliance, and the hiring of the first full-time professor in women's and gender studies.

Teaching History is all I know of Earth, and all I need to know, and I will be perfectly content doing just that.

— John McCardell

Whatever his professional achievements, McCardell acknowledges that a decade-plus in the administrative limelight has meant restructuring his personal life. But McCardell is quick to point out that the job's many upsides have more than compensated for any sacrifices he has had to make.

Though his two sons chose to go away to school, McCardell and his wife Bonnie found the time to witness the "major milestones" in their sons' lives. McCardell's boys, for their part, "were able, when they were younger and living at home, to meet many interesting people and travel."

"So costs and benefits seem very much to be in balance," concluded McCardell about the personal effect of being a College president.

McCardell admits that he has "had largely to suspend [his] life as an historian," postponing major projects he may have had in mind and confining himself instead to the odd article and book review, but he does not complain. In fact, according to McCardell, "historians usually do their best work at an advanced age." The soon-to-be ex-president hopes his time in office will make him a better historian. He will soon have his chance.

When McCardell announced his decision to step down last November, he made clear he had no intention of leaving the College. He plans to take a one-year hiatus and return to teach history under the titles of College Professor, President Emeritus and Trustee Emeritus. "Teaching history is all I know of Earth and all I need to know, and I will be perfectly content doing just that," he said.

As his tenure on top draws to a close, McCardell describes the most rewarding aspects of his Presidency as the opportunity to work "with the on-campus community, the Board and the extended family in articulating our goals and then winning support for them."

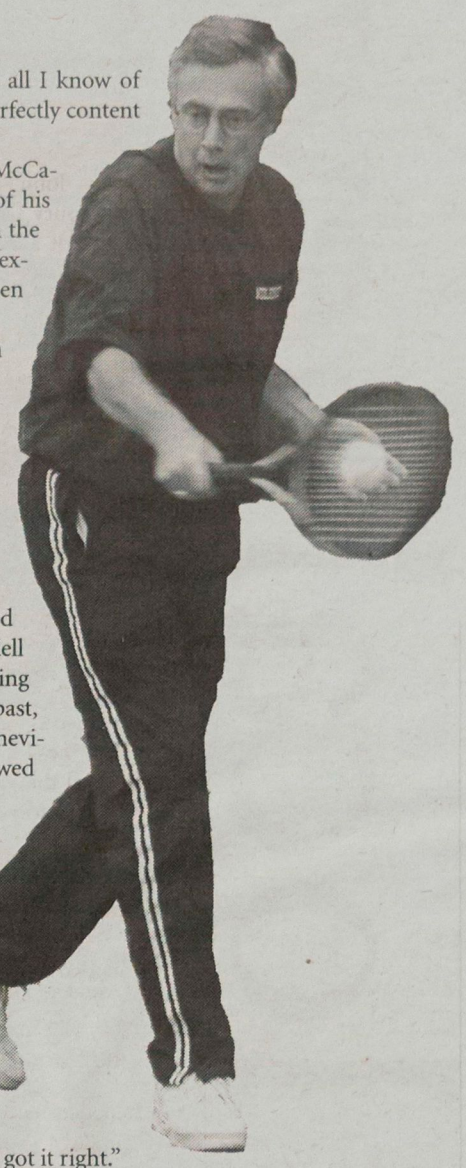
Travel, always a highlight, allowed him to visit old friends, many of them former students of his.

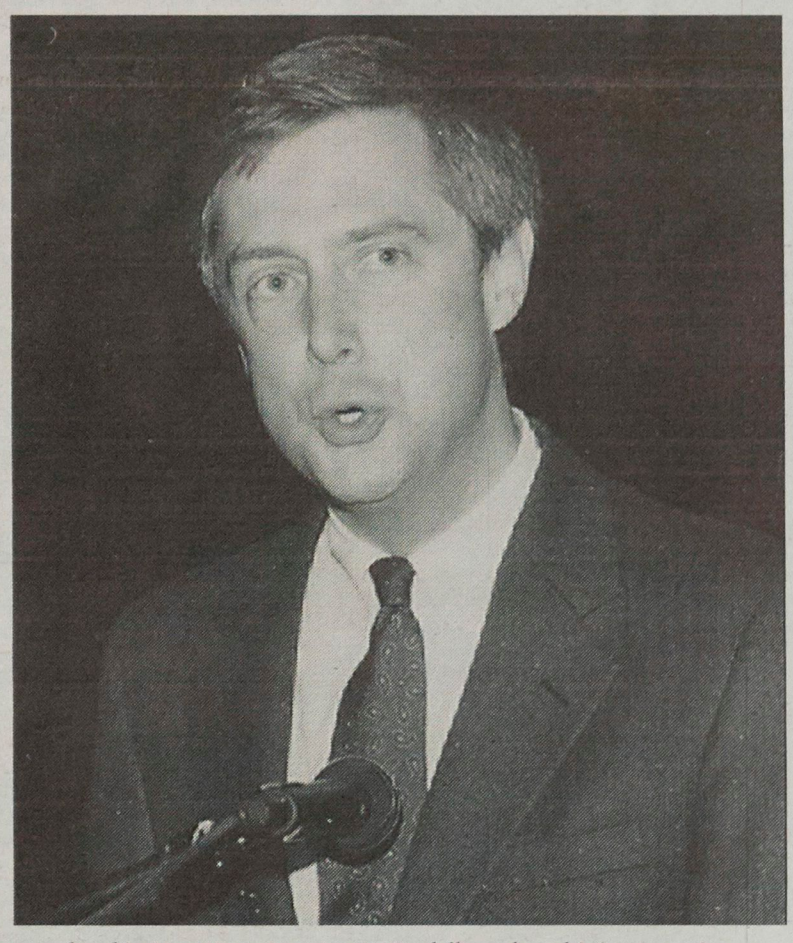
Self-discovery naturally attends positions of power, and McCardell is no exception. Condensing years' worth of new-gained knowledge into handy quotations proves difficult at best, but McCardell does not duck the challenge.

In addition to learning that he possessed more stamina than he realized, McCardell learned that, "seeking to accelerate the coming of the future, or holding too much to the past, is not the way to manage change, which is inevitable, and must be organic, and must be allowed to take hold gradually."

"Trying to make an institution, like oneself, even a bit less imperfect," continues McCardell, "can be enormously challenging, invigorating and satisfying, especially if one does not try to do it alone."

Asked what his legacy will be, McCardell replies, "That on his watch Middlebury College did indeed strive, in the great hymn's words, to 'set our feet on lofty places,' and that, in trying to lead the College forward, he mostly got it right."





Photos courtesy of the Starr Library Special Collections. Page 6 top: President John McCardell speaks at a reunion weekend in May 1993. Bottom: McCardell speaks at his inauguration ceremony, September, 1992. This page above left: McCardell with his wife Bonnie and two sons John and James. Above right: McCardell's first words as president-elect of Middlebury College. Photo top right taken by Vlad Lodoaba: McCardell at one of his regular Sunday morning tennis matches at the Peterson Family Athletic Complex.

Sources: Middlebury College Website and interviews with John McCardell

"Vision for Middlebury" speech outlines a 10-year plan for the College
1994
Students protest, demanding McCardell pay more attention to diversity issues
1998
Announces plans of Enhanced Commons Residential System.
$47 million Bicentennial Hall opens
1999
Burlington Free Press names McCardell 2000 Vermonter of the Year
2000
Bicentennial Campaign raises $213 million
2001
Serves as President of NCAA Div. III Presidents' Council
Announces plan to step down in June 2004
2003

localnews

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VERMONT'S BEST TOWN
MIDDLEBURY RECEIVES ACCOLADE

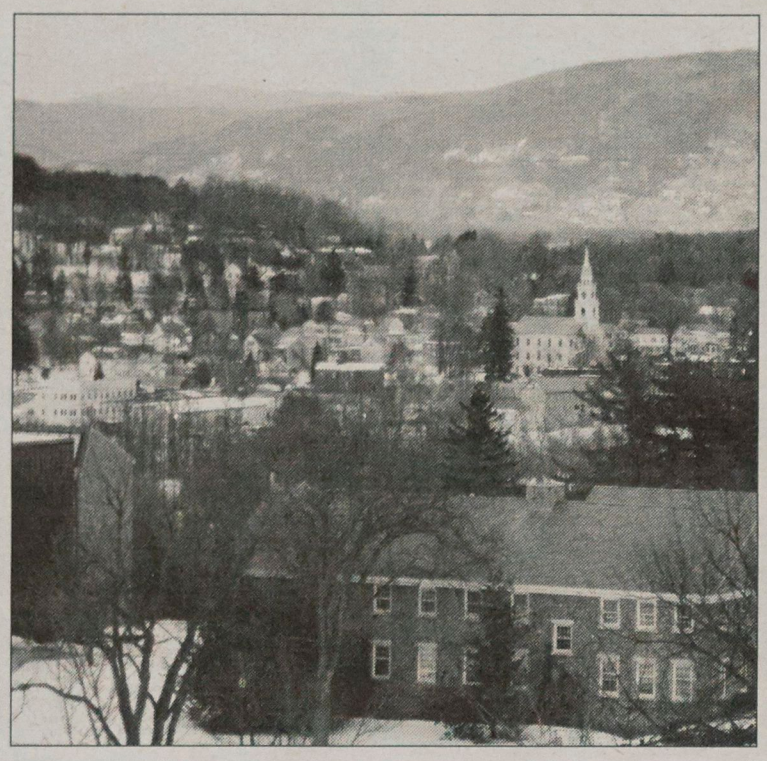
8
MISSING NUKES
POWER PLANT LOSES FUEL RODS

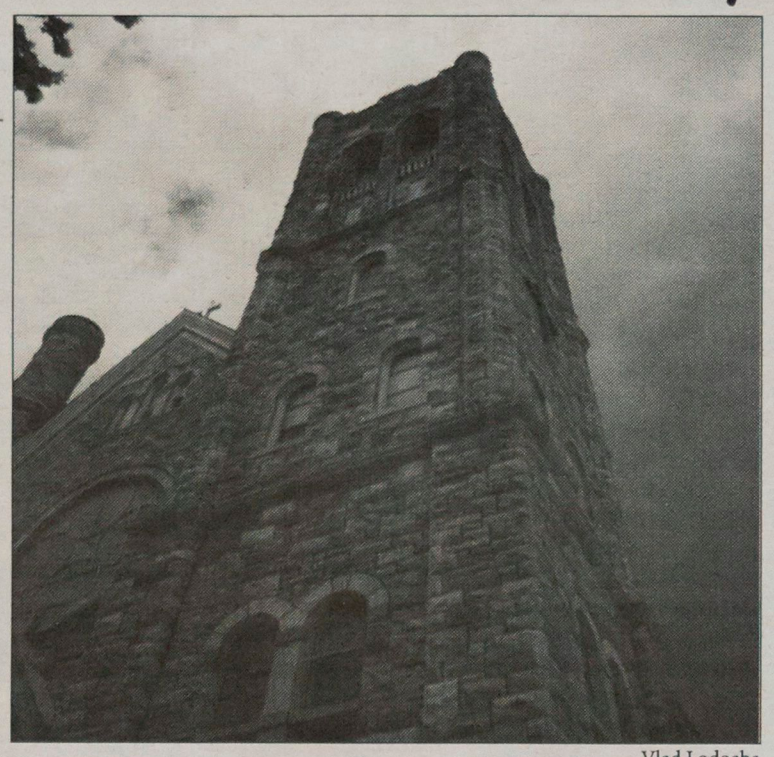
9
GREEN FAIR
TOWN HOSTS ENVIRONMENTAL CELEBRATION

9
FREE CONE DAY!
BEN AND JERRY'S GIVES BACK TO ITS PATRONS

10
BEYOND THE BUBBLE
JOURNEY DOWN ROUTE 125

American Dreams come true in Middlebury





Vlad Lodoaba

American Dream Towns, founded by an eccentric local access talk show host, named the town of Middlebury "Dream Town Vermont" in 2004.

By Scott Bulua
Online Editor

When Middlebury residents woke up earlier this year, they realized they were living in a dream.

American Dream Towns, an organization of questionable relevance, named Middlebury "Dream Town Vermont" in early January after it received the most votes in an online election. The town will be featured in a book published by American Dream Towns that showcases the country's most attractive small towns.

Middlebury won the award because "we're good," said town manager William Fink, who was mildly excited but not overly surprised that the town won the award. "I think there's a pretty high quality of life here and the presence of the College is certainly a big boost to the community." Fink credited the healthy relationship between the College and the town for creating a unique atmosphere in Middlebury. "Because the College was originally founded by the town there's a different sense of connectedness that you don't always have," he said.

The American Dream Town organization was started by an eccentric German-born local television talk show host named Ingrid Lemme. Lemme, whose website describes her as "personable, pleasant and beautiful," is the director of public relations at Gurney's Inn in Montauk, N.Y. and hosts "The American Dream Show" twice a week on a Long Island television station. The show emphasizes family heritage struggles, goals, dreams and accomplishments, and according to its website, hopes to "spread its wings, like an American eagle, to the entire country and abroad" in the coming years.

Lemme founded American Dream Towns with the hopes of inspiring small American towns to celebrate their heritages. Its advisory board, consisting mainly of obscure journalists and television personalities, nominated three towns in every state for the award. In Vermont, Middlebury competed against Woodstock and Stowe. Following an online election on the organization's website in late 2003, the town was notified that it had won the popular election by amassing the most votes on the election site.

Middlebury Administrative Manager BJ Carter said she felt the contest's voting procedure was a bit misleading. "It was almost like whoever got the most votes was listed in the book," she said. Carter e-mailed information about the contest throughout Middlebury, encouraging people to vote, which may have given Middlebury the lead.

The write-up that Middlebury submitted to appear in the American Dream Town book describes the town as "a beautiful quintessential New England village with its white steepled church overlooking Main Street and its vibrant citizenry." Barbara Harding, the travel and marketing director for the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, said that the town may have won the award because it is able to benefit from the creativity that comes out of the College and enriches the town. "The students, the diversity — that is what makes Middlebury what it is," she said.

Harding said that the distinction could help attract visitors to the town, spurring the economy as the contest's organizers also hope. "It's always nice to be able, when you get an honor like that, to use it to your advantage," Harding said. "We definitely would use that within our marketing promoting visitors to come." But Carter, who worked with American Dream Town on the book's entry, is less hopeful about the award's impact. "It just means we get a listing in the book," she said, "but it's still nice that we won for Vermont."

The American Dream Town book, written by Lemme, will be published in May.

Wanted: missing nuclear fuel rods

Major oversight jeopardizes proposed production uprate

By Katherine Doorley
Staff Writer

On April 21 officials announced that two sections of a highly radioactive fuel rod had gone missing from the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant had gone missing, forcing state officials and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to begin searching.

This situation is intolerable and completely unacceptable.
— Gov. Douglas

The two missing fuel rods, measuring seven and 17 inches long, both the width of a pencil, are part of a larger 12-foot rod that was removed in 1979 when it began to develop problems. The rods consist of highly concentrated radioactive material, so strong that they can prove fatal to anyone who comes in contact with them without taking precautionary measures such as radioactive garb.

Officials from Entergy Nuclear contend that no danger is posed to the public by the missing rods. Vermont Yankee has a system of radiation monitors so the rods "could not have been inadvertently removed from the pool in anything other than a container specifically designed and licensed to contain radioactive material," officials said. Engineers from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission agree, positing that the missing rods are either somewhere in the spent fuel pool or that they became mixed in with a shipment of low-grade radioactive waste sent to a storage area in Washington or South Carolina.

Vermont officials reacted quickly to the news of the missing fuel rods. Governor Jim Douglas '72 issued a press release in which he stated, "I am very concerned about reports of missing fuel rods at the Entergy Nuclear power plant. This situation is intolerable and completely unacceptable." Douglas continued by demanding that "the NRC move swiftly to conduct a full and unfettered investigation in order to determine the whereabouts of this material."

Douglas has also charged the Commissioners of the Departments of Public Safety and Public Service to aid in the investigation.

In addition to Douglas, the Vermont Congressional delegation has also expressed concern over the missing rods. In a joint letter to the chairman of the NRC, Senators Jim Jeffords and Patrick Leahy and Representative Bernie Sanders said, "We expect the NRC to ensure that Entergy conducts additional inspections of the spent-fuel pool and the plant and reviews facility records to determine whether these materials continue to be located on site."

The missing fuel rods are not the only problem currently facing Entergy Nuclear. Last week small cracks, attributed to stress, were discovered in the plant's steam dryer, one of the machines' most crucial elements for safely manufacturing nuclear power. Cracks in dryers have led to significant problems in other plants undergoing uprates. These cracks are simply an additional hurdle officials at Entergy Nuclear will need to overcome as they continue to press their case for a power uprate at Vermont Yankee which would increase energy supply by 20 percent.

Opponents of the power production increase at Vermont Yankee view the disappearance of the fuel rods from their storage location as evidence of the danger associated with allowing Entergy Nuclear to increase the amount of power it produces at the plant. The misplacement of these rods, while most likely not a major health hazard, does not help Entergy make the case that they are able to responsibly handle the uprate at the aging power plant. In addition to the fuel rods, the problem of the cracks in important machinery must be fixed before any action can be taken to increase power production. Plans to increase the production of nuclear power in Vermont will remain on hold until these two crucial issues are resolved to the satisfaction of the plant's owners and state and national officials.

Town fair promotes energy awareness

By Joshua Carson
Local News Editor

On Sunday, the town of Middlebury affirmed its unwavering commitment to all things environmental by hosting the third annual Earth Day Fair on the Town Green. A mix of local residents, college students and environmental activists assembled in the center of town with local businesses and organizations to promote products and ideas ranging from buying local produce to boycotting corporations that "foster the Bush administration's policies of militarism and environmental degradation," according to the Vermont Boycott for Peace flyer.

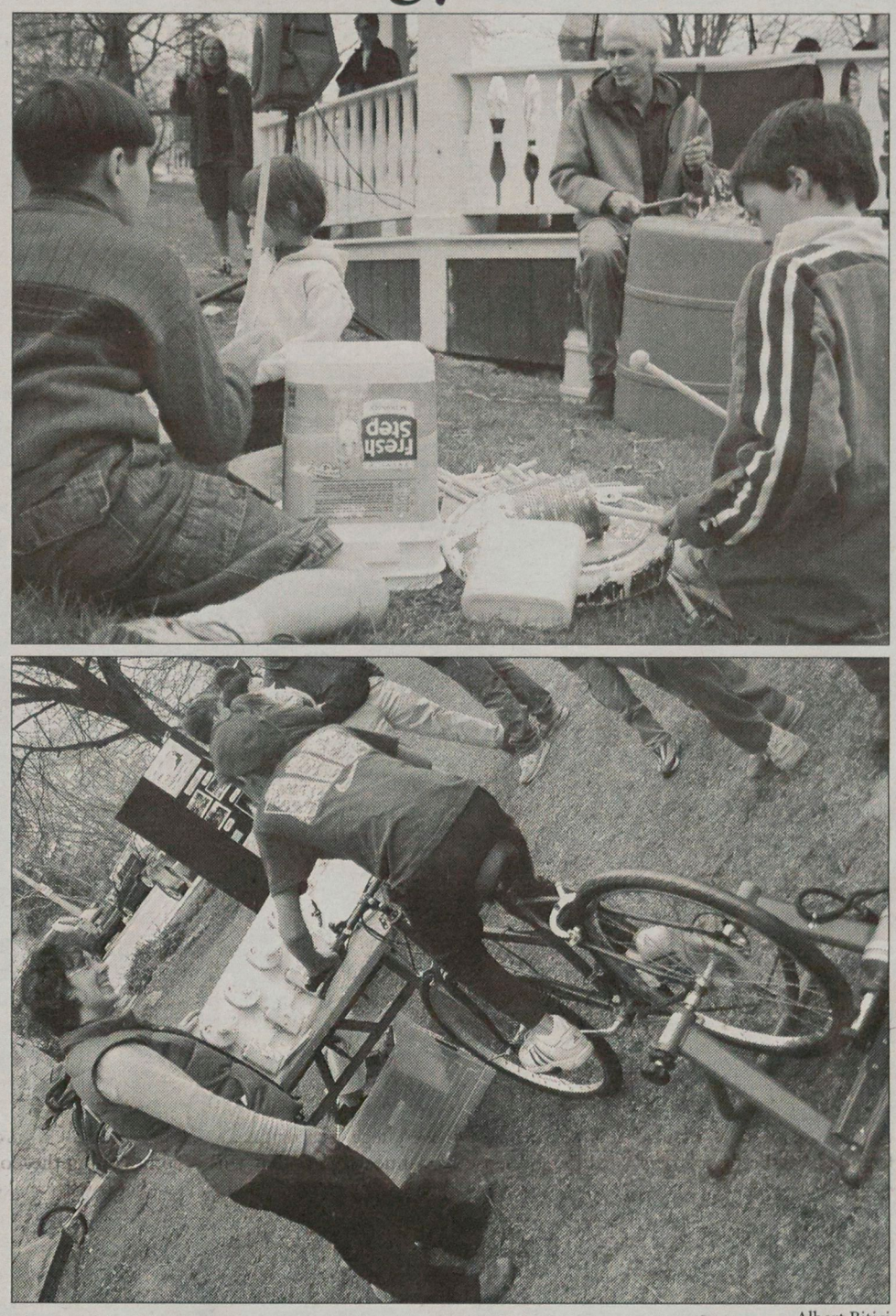
"We want to bring awareness of the good things happening in the community," said Rev. Paul Bortz, one of the organizers of the yearly fair and president of Spirit in Nature, a 70-acre plot of interconnecting trails in Ripton, Vt. "We want to educate people on problems of the environment." This year, the main theme was global warming and local businesses and organizations came out with displays warning of the dangers of climate change and inefficient energy consumption.

Bortz estimates that between 800 and 1,000 people show up to the event each year, which he attributes to the high level of awareness throughout the county as well as to the good music and free food.

Visitors were encouraged to bring old incandescent light bulbs and exchange them for free compact fluorescent bulbs in an effort to save families money and protect Vermont's environment. In a fusion of Jackson Pollock's passion and environmental awareness, the light bulbs were covered in paint and children took turns "shatter[ing] your electric bill" by throwing the bulbs against sheets of plywood.

Erin Brannen-Malloy of the Vermont Energy Education Program was putting adults and children alike through a cardio workout in an effort to show the difference in the amount of energy required to illuminate a 75-watt traditional light bulb compared to lighting an 18-watt compact fluorescent bulb. She said her goal was to educate consumers about energy production and allow them to make balanced and informed decisions when purchasing energy.

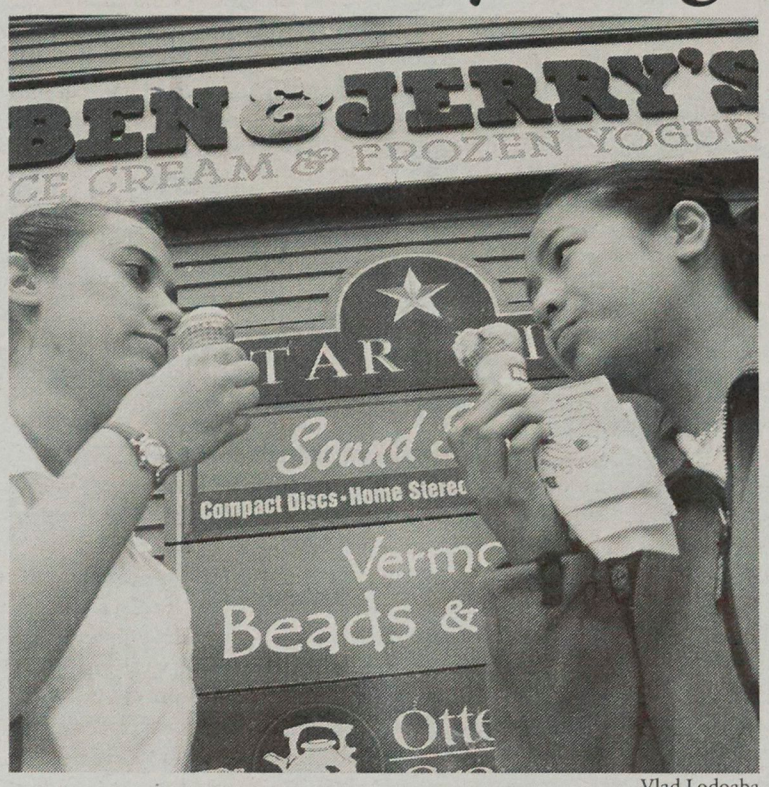
Some people were attracted to the musical performances while others headed for the organic foods or fuel-efficient cars. But the younger children clearly enjoyed the "Junk Music" Community Jam the best. Children beat old pots, plates and other rubish with drum sticks, creating a cacophony to bring the day to a close.



Albert Bitici

Town residents take a hands-on approach to learning about energy conservation.

Community congregates for cone day



Vlad Lodoaba

Hordes of Midd-kids trekked to town to enjoy the free ice-cream.

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

As always, Ben & Jerry's Free Cone Day succeeded tremendously this past Tuesday, drawing college students, high school students, children and adults to its Middlebury store. The mouth-watering event, held every year since 1978, serves what Ben & Jerry's calls a "thank you" to its customers.

Patrons chose from approximately 30 flavors of ice cream, frozen yogurt and sorbet, with options such as Cherry Garcia, Phish Food, Berry Berry Extraordinary and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough. While all types of ice cream were rapidly spooned out of tubs and into cones, scoopers guessed that they most frequently received requests for Chocolate and Oatmeal Cookie Chunk. Some of the flavors are not sold in grocery stores and therefore acted as an added incentive for customers to order free cones. Chris, a town resident who took his 15-month old daughter to the event, said he ordered "Coffee Coffee Buzz Buzz Buzz because they don't sell it anymore in pints." His daughter would have to wait a few more years before having the chance to enjoy the free ice cream, as Chris said, "she's too young. We don't give her too much sugar."

Cooperative weather aided the turnout. Unlike two years ago, when a snowstorm dampened the day, Tuesday had only a brief spat of showers. The rest of the day saw warm weather and sunny skies. People shuffled in and out of the shop from noon until 8:00 in the evening. Even when crowds picked up at 3:30, four to five scoopers happily filled cones to keep the line moving at a rapid pace.

Professor James Davis gave his RE271 class, The Puritans and Their Cultured Despisers, an unexpected treat when halfway through the period he announced, "I need ice cream. I'm leaving." He brought the class down to Ben & Jerry's and promptly ordered himself a cone of Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough.

Ben & Jerry's also introduced a new flavor, Primary Berry Graham, in recognition of the company's cooperation with Rock the Vote. A portion of the proceeds from sales of the ice cream, described as strawberry cheesecake with strawberries and thick graham swirls, will go to support Rock the Vote. Shops around the country, including the one in Middlebury, gave people the opportunity to register to vote. Each shop hoped to register 100 voters, with a combined goal of registering 20,000 people across the country. First-year Laura Healy, who volunteered for Rock the Vote, estimated that 20 people had registered by 3:00 p.m..

The event drew people from open to close, as students were still heading down after dinner to eat a cone for dessert.

Favorite Licks

Cherry Garcia Ice Cream
Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Ice Cream
Cherry Garcia Frozen Yogurt
Chocolate Fudge Brownie Ice Cream
Chunky Monkey Ice Cream

Rural Realities

By Crystal Belle

Six other Middlebury students and I took off last Friday night. We had every reason to think of an excuse not to go — papers, theses and graduation preparation. However, nothing mattered except for one thing — the March for Women's Lives that was to take place in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, April 25. We placed our typical, work-filled, overachieving selves on the backburner in order to participate in some true blue activism. The cars were lined up and our picket signs ready for arrival in D.C.

Saturday morning we found ourselves on our merry way. The long drive was exciting and fun-filled as we stopped to grab lunch, eat ice cream and change the CDs in the car. We were like a big family embarking on a revolutionary journey together, in hopes of seeking long-term social, political and economic change. However, we found the real lure of the march to be the chance it provided to demonstrate our desire for social and political change in the United States, today.

We arrived at the march on Sunday at 9:15 a.m. so that we could begin our search for T-shirts, bumper stickers, political buttons and anything else that signified our mission on the historic day. There were already tons of people there, sitting on the grass, holding up signs, wearing anti-Bush T-shirts. They seemed ready for war, a non-violent one, of course. I looked so many of these individuals in the eye, happy to find an array of people who shared my pro-choice views, as well as women's rights in general. Present were men, women, children, teenagers, senior citizens and mothers-to-be — all ready to take part in the fight for a woman's right to choose. The unity of the crowd was beautiful, the cause necessary. This was evident in the amazing speakers who were present, including Hillary Clinton and Whoopi Goldberg. Unique, talented individuals from all over the world turned out for this remarkable moment in our nation's history.

Middlebury students were everywhere — the more we marched, the more fellow Middlebury students we saw, which was amazing considering the million-plus marching. I never knew our campus was home to such devoted activists and believers in the power of strength in numbers. Nothing could stop our will or the love in our hearts for true justice and equality for all, which continues to drown under Bush's leadership. So we marched along eating "peace sandwiches," drinking "equality soup" and chanting anti-bush slogans: "Hey Hey/ Ho Ho/ George Bush has got to go."

Our feet moved up and down with pride and passion, as we refused to feed into the negativity of the few pro-lifers who lined up alongside the streets. Holding up our signs that read "Keep abortion legal," we looked the pro-life folks in the eye, mostly priests and men, ignoring their prayers for we "sinners" who were apparently going to hell. In the face of that adversity, we continued to march like true soldiers of change, gladly representing Middlebury.

THE BLUE HEN Kitchen & Market

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THE LOCAL FLAVOR

BY ANDREW EDELSTEIN, GENA SCHIFFENHAUS, KELSEY VAN WART AND S.J. BULUA

RESTAURANT
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The Waiting Room gives Burlington a much needed edge. This trendy joint, which rolls a restaurant, bar and lounge into one, is more reminiscent of Greenwich Village than central Vermont. The bar offers a full wine cellar and a diverse range of cocktails, with the standard array of local brews on tap. The lounge provides live music, usually in the form of in-house DJ "A-Dog."

Chef Matthew Birong runs the kitchen, and brings a taste of urban cuisine to the country. His dishes, served over four courses, offer complex and imaginative renditions of various international cuisine, combining Asian, Mediterranean and American influences in each offering. Diners can be treated to a four-course meal ranging from $20 to $50, depending on drinks and meal selection.

The Waiting Room has its own distinct identity. The restaurant definitely makes a statement, although we're not exactly sure what kind of statement. The entire establishment is one spacious room, similar to a warehouse, complete with crates and exposed piping. After spending the amount we did on food, we wondered why the restaurant couldn't afford to seat people on real furniture, instead of wooden boxes. However, many may enjoy the decor and the insightfully philosophical discussion it can inspire. We sure did.

Dinner began with a sampling from the "small" menu, the PoMo (postmodern) term for appetizers. Hearing that shellfish were aphrodisiacs, we ordered the oysters. However, there was nothing sexual about slurping down salty, slimy substances — nothing at all. It was served with an acetic sauce, pungent and delicious. The bruschetta exemplified the minimalist school of cuisine, and lived up to its place on the "small" menu. Nevertheless, at $4, it offered an excellent sliver of bread, topped with an onion slice and accompanied by a good deal of cheese. The fondue, however, was spectacular, with four cheeses combined in a medley of glory. Finally, the fried calamari, served with a spicy, Wasabi-based sauce, was a new approach to an old favorite.

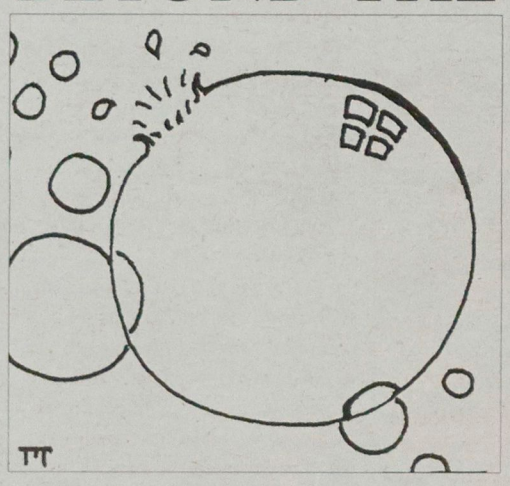
Eventually, we moved on to the main course. We first sampled the steak au poivre, which was light and tender — a choice cut of meat. The price was reasonable for the oral euphoria that it inspired. The other steak option, a filet served with frites, the PoMo term for freedom fries, was reasonably delicious. However, the arugula did not leave such a delicious lingering taste in our palettes. The grilled salmon fused Indian and Japanese preparation styles and was served with a sake wine sauce and a sweet Jasmine rice cake. While the combination of flavors was interesting, it was concealed by the charred grill taste.

Finally, the only thing left ahead of us was dessert. We ordered the chocolate bombe, creme brulee and the pudding cake. Each dish was deliciously rich and sealed the meal with a smile. Our only complaint was the incredibly long wait for the food. We ended up waiting close to half an hour for dessert, making our total stay at the restaurant two hours. Leaving, we felt somewhat unsatisfied.

The Waiting Room gave us a unique experience — distinctly Vermont food, with a hip, New York flair. We would recommend it to anyone who doesn't mind a long wait and is seeking a chance to enjoy PoMo styling.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN



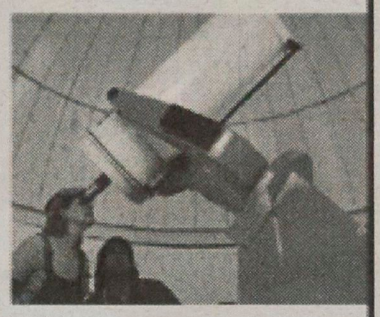
We apologize to our numerous readers (and by numerous we mean seven) who were gravely disappointed in our inability to actually journey beyond the bubble last week. We now make it up to you. Seeking adventure, we hopped in the car and drove, not in the usual direction toward Burlington, but into the unexplored backwoods of Vermont. We weren't quite sure what we would stumble upon, but we were determined to find adventure — we owed it to our readers. Alas, Lisie, upon seeing a field with many a caged animal exclaimed, "Claire, by golly I've got it! Let's go to this petting zoo!" Claire, in that usual tone of hers, pointedly demonstrates her disinterest with whatever hijinx Lisie has most recently thought up, replied, "Lisie, that's not a petting zoo, it's a slaughterhouse."

On we drove. We soon came to a small country home that was having an open house. We decided to take a gander. Lisie's parents enjoy open houses almost as much as they enjoy frequenting antique shows and buying unnecessarily large sized supplies of reading glasses at Costco, so Lisie knows how to play it cool at open houses. To be fair, we are unsure if Lisie actually knows how to play it cool in any situation. But you get our drift. Much in the manner of Starsky and Hutch, we created alter egos for our house tour. Claire's alter ego was Marisa and Lisie's was Summer. We decided that in order to successfully adopt our new personalities, we had to pick personas with which we were incredibly (arguably unhealthily) familiar. As we have memorized lines of dialogue between these Newport Beach best friends, we felt confident that we could pull it off. To our chagrin, we never had the chance, as the house was closed. No petting zoo, no open house. We were almost discouraged.

But then, we came upon the gem of a grocery that is Pratt Store. It looks like it has not changed since 1952. Owned by the Pratt family for over 35 years, the store boasts a deli in back with a huge display of moldy cheese. And not the kind of cheese that is supposed to be moldy. It also houses a wide array of items, strangely positioned. Snazzy earrings for $4.99 were displayed across from the magazine shelf, containing magazines published in March. There were corn-pipes. Yes, we inquired as to what corn-pipes were. The clerk looked at us as if we were idiots. "They are, ya know, pipes made out of corn." Of course. We argued about what treats to buy (we have yet to incur an adventure that did not revolve in some way around food). Lisie wanted Entenmann's while Claire preferred cookie dough. Trying to get into the whole spirit of the Pratt Store, Lisie asked a fellow customer which he preferred. In responding with the utmost seriousness, clearly in favor of Entenmann's, he felt the need to take Lisie's hand in his. Regaining control of her extremity, Lisie grabbed a pink lemonade Snapple and joined Claire at the register, where Claire marveled at the remarkable popularity of padlocks. The display of padlock's was very nearly empty. We thought Vermont was a safe state. Before the whole Ross mugging fiasco, that is.

We bid our new friends adieu and found a good place to park. There we sat, eating Entenmanns's, analyzing our love lives (or lack thereof) and discussing in slightly too much depth the Pina Colada Song's lyrics. Soon, however, we got homesick for our little rooms in Battell, and decided to drive back and watch some O.C.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?



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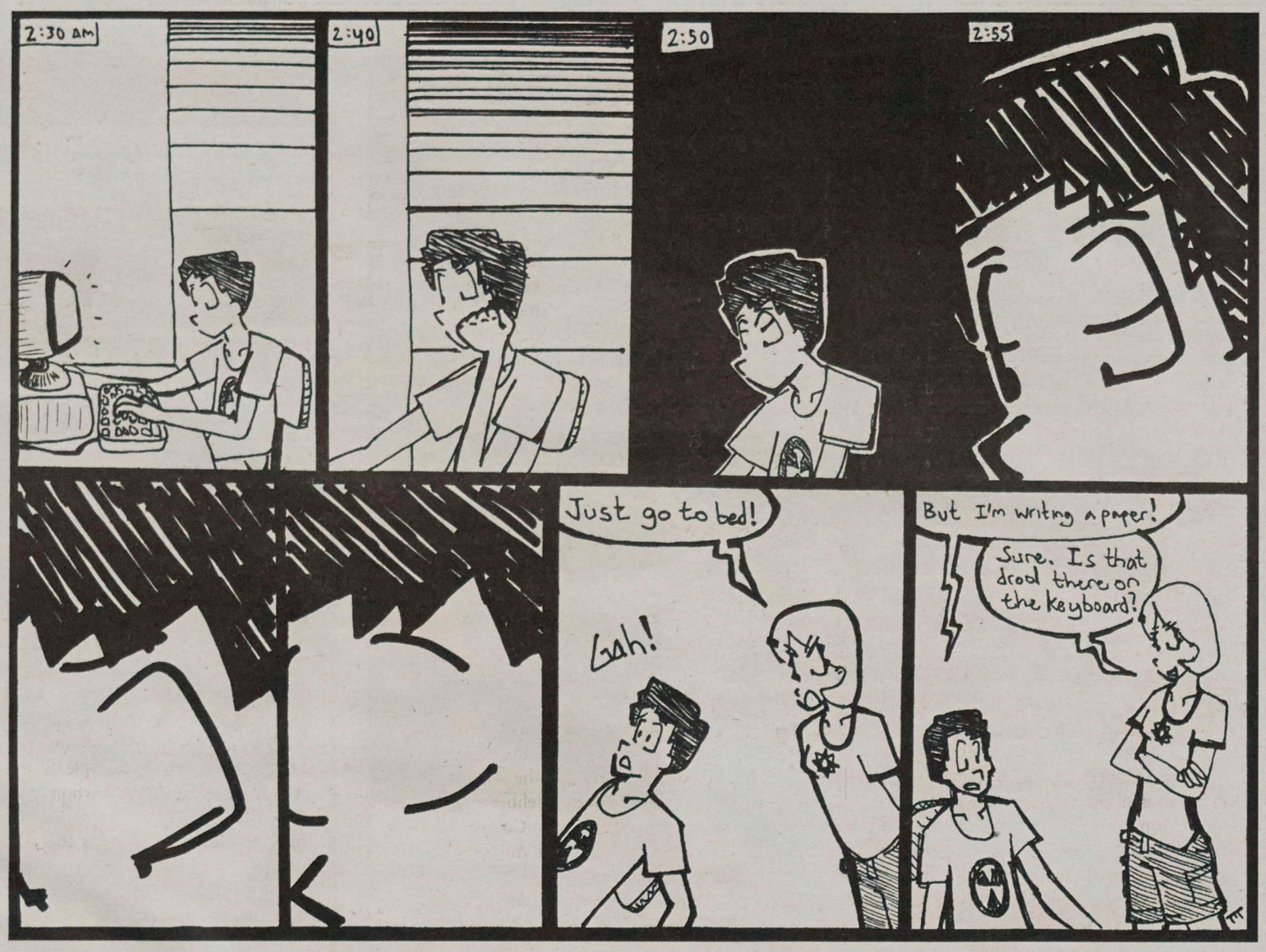

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Editorial

One step at a time: Hickey for president

SGA presidential hopeful Jimmy Hickey '05 wants to put an ice machine in your dorm. Consider it hydration assistance for those not fortunate enough to get a cup at the dining hall. (The discerning editorial board also notes the obvious benefit for fans of whiskey on the rocks.) If cheap-o hotels provide the convenience, says Hickey, so can we.

Such small initiatives — what he calls "baby steps" — coalesce in a convincing platform that merits the unanimous endorsement of The Middlebury Campus editorial board. His ideas are fresh, his presentation polished and his experience evident. He envisions a quick succession of small-scale achievements that will collectively change the direction of SGA politics.

SGA ELECTIONS 2004

That means advocating more laundry facilities, installing change machines to replace the MiddCard's golden chip and pushing for faster final grade notification. In other words, anything but the usual roster of stale ideas that defined SGA administrations of years past.

In the wake of the Rodriguez experiment, the student body needs a leader with political savvy and bureaucratic know-how to represent its interests to the newly recast College administration. Jimmy's our man.

One-man show: Woodward for SCCOCC

J.S. Woodward '06 is disappointed with the lack of contestants in this year's election for Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC). So are we. But despite the absence of challengers, Woodward wins the editorial board's backing in his one-man bid for the SGA's number-two post.

His lack of direct experience on the Council guarantees a steep learning curve as he adapts to its bureaucratic procedures. But his outsider status also empowers him to redefine a position increasingly seen as an arm of the administration instead of student representative who's there first and foremost to provide a student voice.

He's also a classic commons insider, with tri-chair of Cook Commons as his latest resume entry. He will have to separate his commons loyalty from his service on the College's chief policy-making body.

We hope that Woodward's socially driven platform will allow him to bring the SCCOCC position into line with its mission — to represent student interests on a body that is arguably more influential than the SGA Senate.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

I write to voice my support of J.S. Woodward's '06 candidacy to the SCCOCC for the coming 2004-2005 year.

As a tri-chair of Cook Commons and as a member of the Environmental Council, Woodward has proven himself a dedicated student leader with a shrewd vision for the College. Through my experience with him on the Inter-Commons Council, I have seen the effectiveness with which Woodward articulates and defends his convictions and have often come away from such discussions with a new perspective on the issue at hand. In his statement of intent, Woodward reveals a thorough understanding of the challenges Middlebury faces in the coming year and conveys developed, appropriate and attainable solutions that his is committed to work towards.

His stated goals of liberalizing restrictions on parties, enhancing our recognition of Febs and their uniqueness and pushing for greater student input in administrative decisions are issues pertinent for the campus as a whole in improving life at Middlebury. I wholeheartedly endorse Woodward for the position of SCCOCC. Although he runs unopposed, a greater margin of victory expresses a more piercing mandate to accomplish his ambitions.

Please take a moment this week to login to the SGA website and express your support with a vote in his favor.

Sincerely,
Scott Kleiman '06
Needham, Mass.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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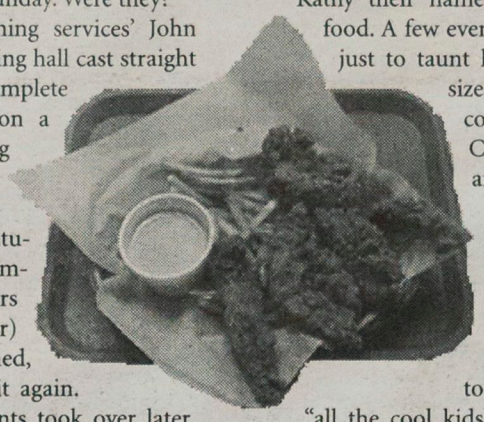
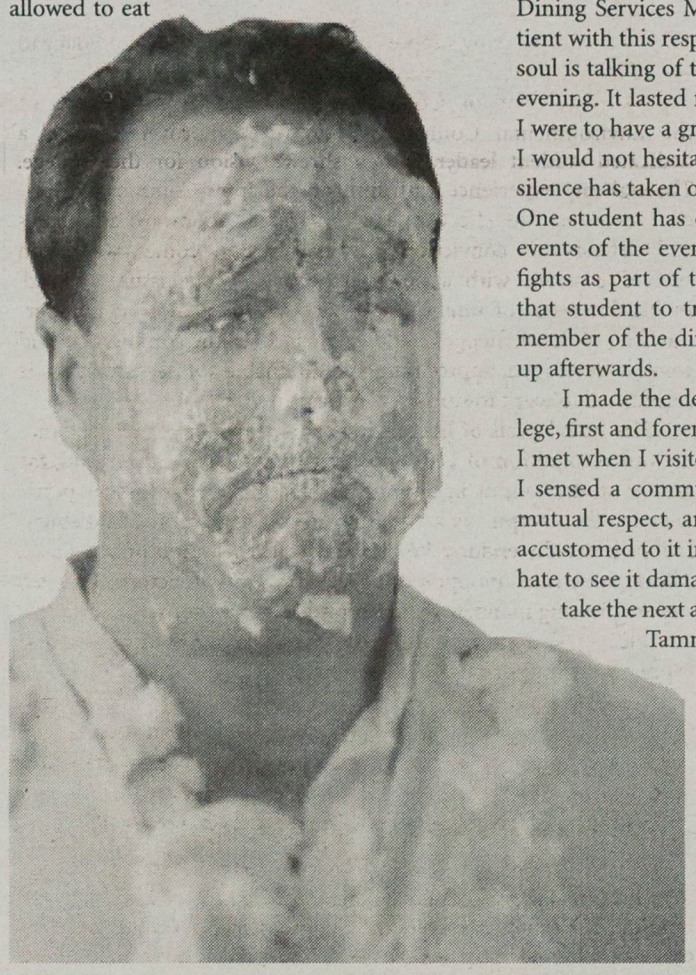
What ever happened to peer pressure?

To the general public, Middlebury College is portrayed as a campus of leaders. Certainly the admissions statistics confirm that. Over the past three years the school has admitted an average of 142 school presidents and 537 team captains, a large percentage of whom have matriculated. It is a pity that none of them were present in the Hamlin dining facility on Sunday. Were they?

On Sunday night, dining services' John Nordmeyer arrived at a dining hall cast straight out of Animal House, complete with a student standing on a table while using his dining tray to shield against the large quantities of food being thrown at him. He eventually fell off the table (presumably onto the chicken fingers and sauce littering the floor) and, upon being admonished, promised he wouldn't do it again. Unfortunately, reinforcements took over later in the evening. John caught one such student trying to sneak in the back way to avoid the line, and asked him to go around to wait in line. This he seemed to do — until he was caught trying to sneak in the back again, and was asked to go around and wait in line. Third time was the charm it seems, as he finally made it in. A few minutes later, he received a warning when caught throwing food. He was then caught in the motion a second time, and had the nerve to become belligerent, demanding to know, "What, I'm not allowed to eat this? Do you have a problem with me eating this?" Then, when John and the then-present security officer, Kathy turned their backs, he chucked the chicken wing at a dining staff member and ran out the door.





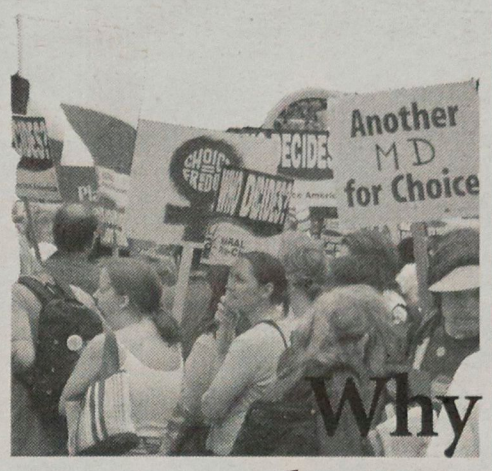
This continued all night long, and it was not the first night it has happened. Students were repeatedly disrespectful to John, and refused to give him or Kathy their names when caught throwing food. A few even pretended to throw food just to taunt him. And all the while, a sizeable and representative contingent of Middlebury College students looked on, and did nothing.

I am not writing this article to condemn the actions of a few drunks: that has and will be done in excess. My question is this: what ever happened to peer pressure? Not the "all the cool kids" kind, but the kind that involves a group of onlookers taking the initiative to stand up to a student who is being deliberately disrespectful to another member of the College community. The kind who say to another student, "Way to go big man, you threw food at a teenage member of the dining staff and booked it out of there. Now be a real big man and apologize to her."

This was not a one-time incident. It was simply the worst in a string of occurrences, to which the Middlebury community's only response has been, "What, you're closing my dining hall?" Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette has become impatient with this response, and for good reason. "Not a soul is talking of the 20-30 who ruined it for all last evening. It lasted for the majority of the evening. If I were to have a group of folks sign for their actions, I would not hesitate to re-open. However, a code of silence has taken over and we have but three names." One student has even emailed Biette to justify the events of the evening, referring to large-scale food fights as part of the college experience. I challenge that student to try to justify this, in person, to a member of the dining staff responsible for cleaning up afterwards.

I made the decision to attend Middlebury College, first and foremost, because of the type of people I met when I visited the campus on a late April day. I sensed a community based upon friendship and mutual respect, and I have become both fond and accustomed to it in the three and a half years since. I hate to see it damaged, and I hope that everyone will take the next available opportunity to speak with Tammy, Kay, Dawn or any member of the FIC dining staff, to thank them for what they do, and to apologize on behalf of the community for letting this happen.

Mike Yedinak '04
A political science major
from Westford, Mass.



Why pro-choice is pro-life

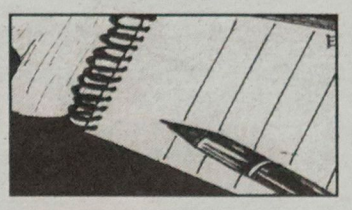
I walked down Pennsylvania Avenue proudly marching next to teens, mothers, grandmothers (the Raging Grannies) and men of all ages. On either side of us, anti-abortion protesters stood holding signs — pictures of fetuses, babies and Jesus. Suddenly I saw a sign that made me realize what all of these anti-abortion people did not know about me. The sign said, "Is abortion really a woman's best choice?"

The thing they did not know is that I, a March for Women's Lives participant, am pro-life. In fact, the entire pro-choice movement is essentially pro-life. Few pro-choice activists think that abortion is a woman's best choice. Abortion is a horrible ordeal. It is only the last resort of the choice movement. When she first took the stage Gloria Feldt, the President of Planned Parenthood, said that she wanted nothing more than to work so that no woman would ever need an abortion again.

The choice movement is fighting for women to have choices before they are backed into the corner that makes abortions necessary. The first line of defense is education. Currently, President Bush is aggressively pushing Abstinence Only Education. Abstinence Only Education not only denies students information, but has also proved to be ineffective. Lubbock County, Texas, has taught only Abstinence Only for seven years. It also has the highest teen pregnancy and STD rate in Texas, a state whose averages are already higher than the rest of the country. During the last four years the national average has dropped slightly, but Lubbock's rate has risen two percent.

In Franklin County, N.C., the school board ordered three chapters covering STDs, AIDS and contraception to be literally sliced out of the state's health textbooks. Although when used properly condoms are 90 percent effective, so few people are taught how to use them that the national average is a 70 percent effectiveness rate. This withholding of information can hardly be called education. Access is the next battleground for women's control over their own bodies. Contraceptives are neither cheap nor easily accessible. Most insurance plans will not cover the pill except

See Willa Brown's Marching for life, page 14



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

News editors are notorious for being nocturnal — just ask any of us on a Wednesday if we slept last night. We didn't. And yet, in our never-ending struggle against sleep, I like to think that we have become quite the caffeine connoisseurs on campus — knowing the difference between English Breakfast and Irish Breakfast tea, when a chai tea is too foamy and why skim milk is better.

But I think one resounding axiom that editors and caffeine-consuming college students alike can agree upon is that Coca-Cola Classic is far superior to Pepsi Cola. What's worse, Middlebury has practically deprived us of this simple pleasure, and my taste buds, for one, are utterly offended.

Pepsi is just too sweet. It tastes like carbonated corn syrup, overloaded with sugar. Diet Pepsi is the worst by far, leaving a saccharin-laden aftertaste mulling in the mouth until your next meal. And while Pepsi One comes close, Diet Coke is clearly the pinnacle of calorie-free colas on the market, but even that is in short supply for Midd-kids.

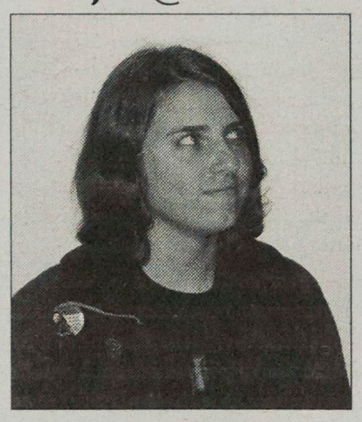
I find it outrageous that I can't even get a quick pick-me-up from a nearby vending machine lest my caffeinated can be tained with the signature red, white and blue orb. And if someone needs the perfect complement to wash down that late-night Dr. Feelgood, we all have to settle for a Pepsi because not one fountain drink dispenser on this campus carries Coke — the only place we can get our hands on this delicacy is MiddXpress, unless you're willing to huff it out to Shaw's or The Blue Hen and pay out of your own pocket.

In fact, I'm convinced that there is no dining establishment in this entire town that offers Coke on tap. Whether I order a medium Coke at Mr. Up's or The Grille, I find myself plagued with the eternal response, "Is Pepsi O.K.?" Well I say no. Pepsi is not O.K.

For if Fair Trade Coffee can begrudgingly traipse its way into our dining halls, why can't Coke?

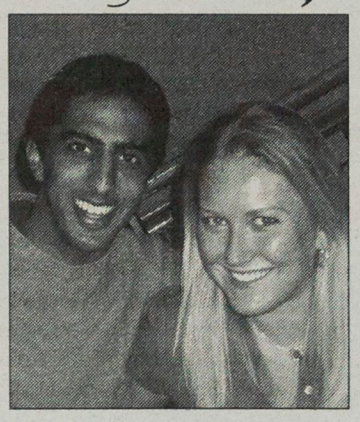
Daniel Phillips
News Editor
The Middlebury Campus

The Middlebury Campus online poll



I SEE THE COMMONS TAKING OVER MIDD.

—ANGELA HEAD '07



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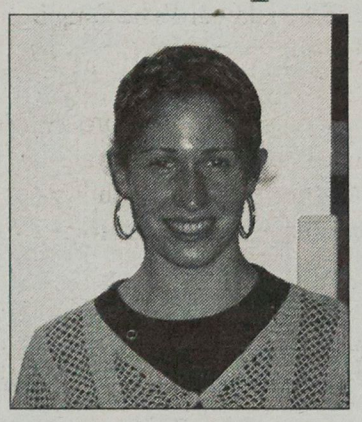
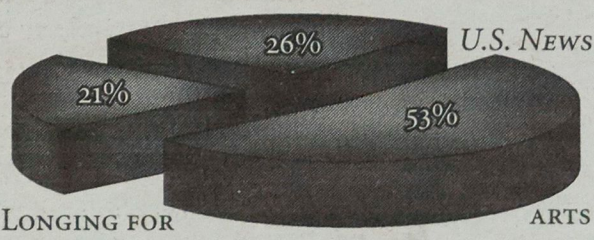


I THINK THE COLLEGE WILL HAVE SECURED ITS FINANCIAL WELL-BEING AND WILL HAVE CARVED OUT AN IDENTITY FOR ITSELF THAT STANDS OUT FROM OTHER LEADING LIBERAL ARTS INSTITUTIONS.

—ERIN SULLIVAN '04

IN LIGHT OF RON LIEBOWITZ'S APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENT, WHERE WILL MIDDLEBURY BE IN A DECADE?

More like an Ivy-league and less like a liberal arts college

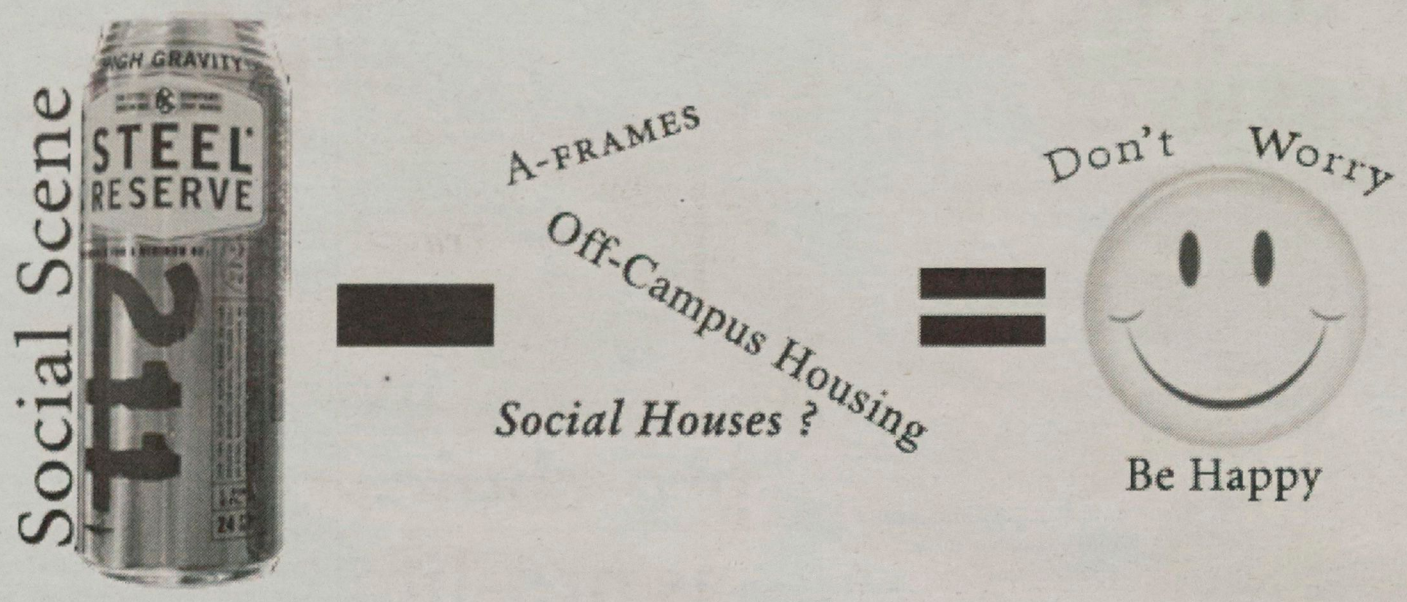


Atop the *U.S. News & World Report* lists of top liberal arts colleges

Longing for the days when Middlebury was actually taken seriously

Results based on 124 responses collected between April 22 and April 27 at www.middleburycampus.com

Next Week's Poll Question: What do you think of the smoking ban proposed by President McCardell?



Don't decry change, live college up

When I was in high school, I often listened to my sister, then a student at Middlebury, talk about all the changes, some good and some bad, that were happening on campus. She spoke with excitement about the new "Grille" that had replaced the space of the antiquated campus pool, but was sad about the loss of the former Crest Room, where she and her friends had gone late at night to get food. Angry and dismayed, she lamented the banishment of her boyfriend's fraternity from campus and wondered if the haphazard institution of social houses would ever be able to fill the void the frats had left in their wake. While she was thrilled about her team's new hockey rink that replaced the old one in Nelson, she told me I'd be missing out since their beloved Woody's was soon to change hands and become Tully and Marie's. With all the seemingly negative changes came beneficial ones as well and she loved her time here enough to convince me that this was where I wanted to spend the next four years of my life.

When I stepped onto the campus a few months after she had packed up all her belongings and driven away, I was, for the most part, indifferent to any of the changes she had bemoaned. That weekends had not always centered around social house parties instead of fraternities and small changes, such as first-years' cars being banned from everywhere but Kenyon, did not bother me, because I had known nothing else. The Middlebury I loved was, at the heart, the same one my sister had, although I soon realized that our experiences would not be the same.

As my time here has passed, it has been my sister's turn to hear my own complaints about changes the campus has undergone. Especially over the past couple of months, I have witnessed with skepticism and pessimism, and occasionally anger, a laundry list of changes and transitions that seem to be disrupting life at Middlebury as I've known it. With the potential loss of a social house and a reduction of the number of students who can live off-campus, social life on campus seems like it might be turning towards a series of Ross Vegas-es and dorm room congregating. Angrily, I've been wondering what will become of the house parties and social house parties that I've known and loved. Recently, however, as I've considered this, irritated, I've started to realize that the social life and all the traditions and routines I have loved are not necessarily the same that those before me, and those who will follow me, will also be a part of. Just because the most significant role the commons have played in my time here has been when I had to figure out where the Ross Commons barbeque was because the dining halls were closed, doesn't mean that they aren't and won't be liked and utilized by future generations of students.

I've always been a person who hates change, but I've come to realize, comparing my sister's experience to mine, that change is not always bad, though not always welcome. Coming back from our semesters abroad last spring, my friends and I were incredulous that Proctor would no longer be the central dining hall on campus. In contrast to the home-like atmosphere of Proctor, Ross felt like a giant ski-lodge with too many chairs. Funnily enough, I now find myself eating most of my meals in Ross.

It's hard not to be accepting of changes when you seem to suffer the brunt of unforeseen consequences. With the end of A-Frames, many rising sophomores have found themselves with singles in Coffrin instead of anticipated suites in Atwater and Davis. No one wants to be the victim of transition but sometimes in order to endure change, there are inevitably frustrating costs. (And sometimes room draw just isn't on your side. I certainly didn't enjoy living in Milliken for two years.)

No college is perfect, but like anything, you can make what you want of it. Instead of worrying about the changes that seem to be occurring here, appreciate Middlebury for what it is and enjoy your time here because before you know it, you'll be looking back in sad disbelief that it's already time to leave.

Amanda Pullins '04
An English major
from New Canaan, Conn.

Marching for life

Continued from page 13

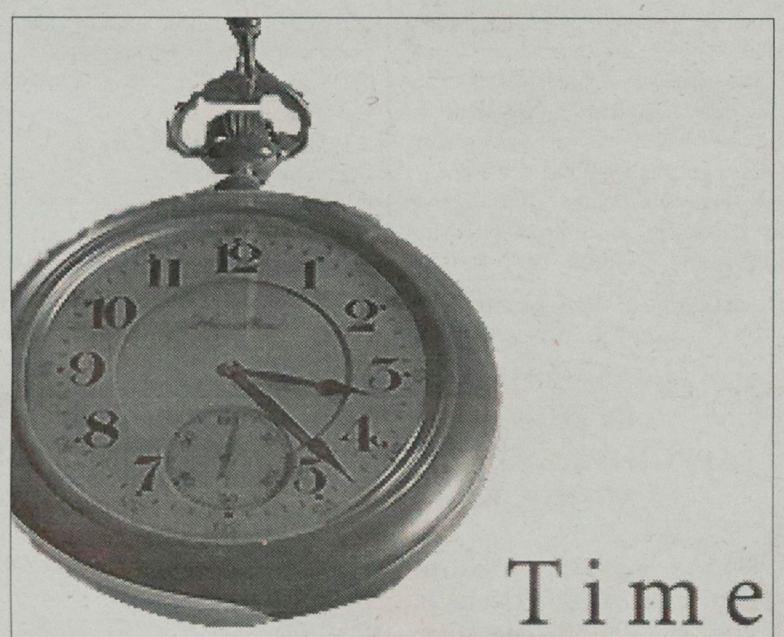
for menstrual regulation (in an interesting comparison more than half the insurance programs in this country cover Viagra). With poor sex education and an inability to afford the pill, women are left with few options. In the case of rape or the dysfunction of a contraceptive, Emergency Contraception (EC) seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel.

However, EC only works within 72 hours of sex and not all doctors are willing to prescribe it. Assuming a woman managed get the prescription, many pharmacies allow their pharmacists to choose not to fill EC prescriptions. So there you are, mistakenly pregnant and facing a 72-hour obstacle course to get to the drug you need. Good luck. Those who object to over-the-counter EC say that women will use it instead of contraception.

These people have never met a woman who took EC. No woman would choose a pill that will leave her incapacitated with cramps and nausea for up to 48 hours over a condom. The choice movement fights on all of these fronts. Choice means full access to contraceptive education. It is pushing for co-pay for contraceptives and to make EC an over-the-counter drug. Simultaneously, choice organizations like Planned Parenthood work with women to help them learn and plan safe sex habits. Choice means the choice to have safe sex or remain abstinent while keeping abortion legal as a last resort.

Making abortion illegal does not decrease the need for it. It just makes abortions more difficult and more dangerous. Choice is about making abortions less necessary and more rare, not terrifying and forbidden. Sunday I marched with hundreds of thousands of women for choice. None think that abortion is a woman's best option. Yet, in a system that denies women the tools necessary to maintain control over her own reproductive rights, it is sometimes a woman's only choice. It is a heart-wrenching, life-shattering choice to make, but it is a woman's choice to make for herself. So as long as we are able to march, speak and vote, we will work to make sure that abortions are not provided by a barber and have nothing to do with a wire hanger.

Willa Brown '07
An undeclared major
from Washington, D.C.



Jacobi: The role of the SGA

The goal of every SGA president should be to lead the student government in best representing the goals and needs of the student body to the administration. This means that the SGA has the responsibility to not only struggle for the students when something they treasure, such as J-Term, is in danger of being changed, but also to think of new and creative ways to improve students' lives on campus. In other words, it requires a combination of being proactive and reactive.

There are many initiatives that the SGA can get accomplished for students by being creative and open-minded. Initiatives that are not accepted by the administration are those that infringe upon the rights and responsibilities of the faculty, staff and/or administration, as well as those that seek to take up significant funds that only the trustees can dole out. So don't expect to see the SGA orchestrating any building projects in the next few years.

But even without these responsibilities, the SGA can accomplish a lot if the lines of communication between the student body and the SGA remain intact. Ideas like party registration reform and the creation of a more uniform approach for the Student Advisory Councils to get student feedback on courses and professors are positive changes that are very feasible and could be appreciated by Middlebury students for years to come.

It's time we asked the SGA for real, practical ideas.

I know this is becoming cliché, but we do have a great opportunity next year to give students more of a voice in issues that pertain to them. Not only do we have a new president coming in, but we also have faculty, administrators and students who have significant complaints that will have to be addressed - administrators complain about the increase in number and size of off-campus parties, students complain about drinking out of Mongolian Bowls at lunch and dinner, faculty members complain about the demand on them from the current form of J-Term, just to name a few. All of these issues have something to do with students and, whether they require a proactive effort or a reactive response, I am optimistic that an SGA president that works well with the administration can insert the student view into each of these issues.

To say that the SGA must only be a reactive body as some do seems defeatist to me. If the SGA wants something badly enough that does not alienate the administration, faculty or staff, it can achieve its prerogatives.

Feasibility should always be a concern of any initiative the SGA proposes, but I believe that we can achieve more than just the spirited e-mail writing and petition campaigns about J-Term. If the SGA only aspires to accomplish little by not being both assertive and proactive in its dealing with the administration, it will succeed in accomplishing only very little. It's time that we asked for more from the SGA, for real, practical ideas that will continue to make Middlebury a better place to be a student.

Andrew Jacobi '05
An economics and history major
from Pacific Palisades, Calif.

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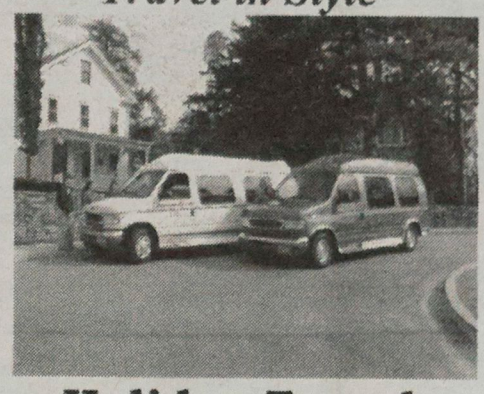

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MIDD STUDENTS TAKE PART IN HISTORY MAKING MARCH

Cruisin' for some boozin'

By Abbie Beane
Features Editor

College students are competitive across the board these days — and across the bar. From linear algebra to ancient Buddhist studies to how many 40s we can funnel in a seven minute period, everybody wants to be the best at everything — especially drinking and insomnia.

Although many of us continue to overdo it when it comes to boozing on the weekends, the drinking scene at the College has been evolving over the past few years.

According to Vanessa Riena, general manager of Mister Up's bar and restaurant in Middlebury, drinking and binge drinking have declined rapidly in bars in the downtown area, even since last year. "[When I was a waitress] just a couple of years ago, this place used to be packed until 2 a.m. I dreaded coming in every Wednesday through Saturday. Now the place is dead by 11 p.m. or midnight almost every night." Riena observes that Angela's Pub has witnessed a similar trend in recent years, which isn't to say student drinking has declined overall. Riena speculates that students are simply doing more on-campus drinking since partying at social houses and in dorms is less expensive, students can be more rowdy on College grounds and there's been a conspicuous crack down on on drunken drivers by town police officers. The number of DWIs issued in Middlebury has spiked in recent years, said Riena.

Lisa Boudah, director of Public Safety, feels that there has been a slight increase in off-campus parties over the past few years and a decline in on-campus parties. However, because of the increasing number of DWIs given in town, there has actually been a reduction in the number of College students receiving DWIs. Boudah says students are making smarter decisions and choosing to elect designated drivers.

Regarding on-campus drinking, Boudah reports that there has been an overall increase in the number of students taken to Porter Hospital by ambulance for drinking-related problems since last year.

Boudah hopes this trend does not continue, yet she is in favor of controlled drinking environments, which the College has been making a recent effort to bolster. She highlights events with "biergartens" (beer gardens) — places where those who are of age can drink on the College's purse, dance and be safe. "I think it's a positive thing and I do think it's helping," said Boudah. Furthermore, she believes there's nothing wrong with having fun to a healthy extent, but what students are forgetting to do is eat and drink water while consuming alcohol. They are also mixing and matching all kinds of different drinks, making themselves sick. "What irks me most is that there's good information out there for students if they want to use it [and prevent themselves from becoming ill]," says Boudah.

As for what students are drinking, Boudah feels that they are still consuming plenty of liquor and beer.

What we're drinking most frequently is no mind-bending surprise — Busch Light by the truckloads. According to Joe Cotroneo (also known as "Bev. Co. Joe"), owner of Middlebury Discount Beverage in downtown Middlebury, which does approximately 60 percent of beer sales for the entire town, students buy so many 30-packs of Busch Light between Thursday and Friday that he's uncomfortable even discussing how much is "a lot." "It's a lot" he says ambiguously, "I mean — *a lot*." He claims, however, that he has not seen a noticeable jump in beer sales in the three years since he's owned the store. Sales jump noticeably during certain times of the year, such as during senior week, which provides 25 to 40 percent of his business. Cotroneo defends students' stereotypically unrefined tastes in booze, however. "I sell a lot of expensive stuff too," he says, "like tons of big bombers, high-end beer, oh — and ping pong balls." Malt beverages (or "malternatives" as he calls them) are less popular with College students. He reflects that keeping the prices consistent is key, and always strives to buy lots of a product when the distributor puts it on sale.

"I might say hard liquor is one of the problems if kids are treating liquor like beer," Controneo says. He then admits his jealousy of Andrew McCabe, who owns the only liquor outlet in town, lamenting that the state doesn't allow for more hard liquor stores in Middlebury.

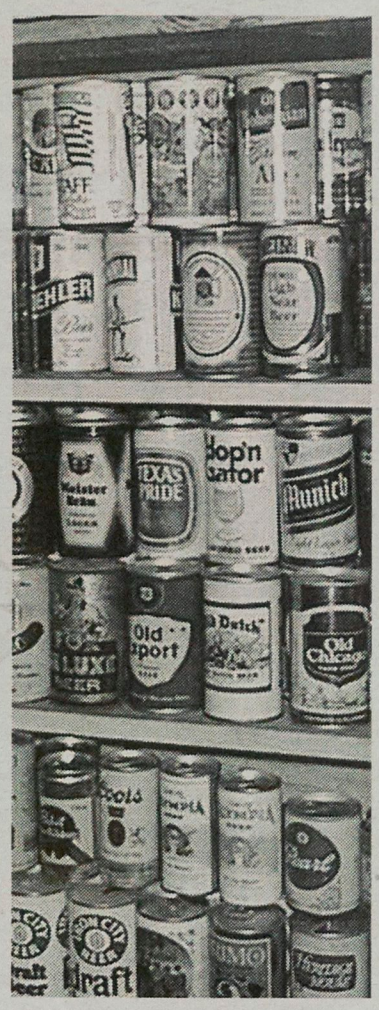
As for Andrew McCabe '83, owner of the Vermont Liquor Outlet, erstwhile religion major (who now sells spirits, as he puts it) and son of a monk, beer is the problem. In fact, he finds the term "hard liquor" quite ironic considering it contains the same product as beer and wine. "The entry-level drug isn't cigarettes," he proclaims. "It's beer. Beer is food in people's minds. It says 'holiday.' It says 'American.' Commercials even make it look good for you. It's a social ritual. In fact, there isn't even sales tax on beer, but there is on wine."

Although McCabe sells some beer, its role is minor at the liquor outlet, where "hard alcohol" constitutes just over half of his sales. He says College parents buy most of the wine — McCabe will often sell as much as $14,000 in wine in two days around graduation time. As for the students, McCabe says he's often impressed with their knowledge of wines as well, which is not to include their boxed Fransia "smarts" — a wine that should really only be used for cooking. On the subject of the "serious spirits," McCabe admits that College students do buy a considerable amount of liquor, particularly on the weekends and on special occasions, although his beer sales dropped off considerably after he stopped selling kegs.

"College fakes look so good these days we had to start using the College catalogue to identify minors," he adds. "The real issue is selling to an underage person who might hurt [him or herself]. That could cost you a lot of money."

Since McCabe was in school, he speculates that beer consumption has remained basically the same, though students seem more focused and "plugged in" than they once did. Many students have often speculated, however, that increased stress on the weekdays may result in more binge drinking and consuming of "harder" beverages on the weekends. As the saying goes, the harder you work on the weekdays, the harder you play on the weekends. But play hard and pay hard has its costs. Others have already sacrificed their stomach linings as examples for the rest of us.

PART II NEXT WEEK: STUDENTS SPEAK OUT ABOUT THE CHANGING NATURE OF CONSUMPTION AND PARTYING, THE "PROBLEMATIC" TYPES OF ALCOHOL AND THE MANY REASONS WHY THEY MAKE DRINKING A HABIT.



MEET THE BOOZE CREWS: BEV. CO. JOE VS. HARD BREW DREW

Andrew McCabe '83, Owner of the Vermont Liquor Outlet

— Cheaper wine is better wine than it once was! Many fantastic wineries from California to Australia are making excess juice, causing a glut in the market. Hogue Merlot and Chardonnay, for example, is just one decent brand in a deflationary trend, forcing the company to change labels and prices in order to sell the same product. Many $16.99 bottles have dropped to $9.99. The difference between a $9.99 and $19.99 bottle is nearly negligible these days.

— Going to a wine tasting? McCabe recommends tasting the wine without swallowing it. This is the best way to judge its quality.

— Inexpensive and incredible wines to watch for:
Trumpeter Merlot, Argentina — $9.99 (originally $19.99)
Gruet, Albuquerque — $12.99
Vanduzer Barrel Select Pinot Noir, Oregon's Willamette Valley — $21.99
Carmen Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Carmenere, Chile (look for this in May!) — $5.75. "If Merlot is chicken, Carmenere is pheasant — it's racier."

Joe Cotroneo, Owner of Middlebury Discount Beverage

— According to Cotroneo, Middlebury ranks number two in the state for its sales of Busch Light, following Burlington — home of UVM.

— Cotroneo's favorite beer: Guinness

— Discount Beverage claims to do approximately 60 percent of beer sales in town, and 100 percent of the keg business!

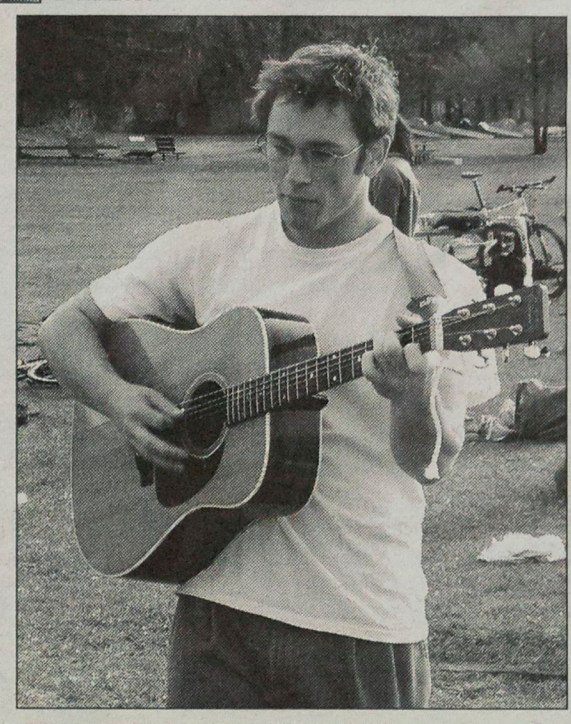
Flaming flamingo hot for summer

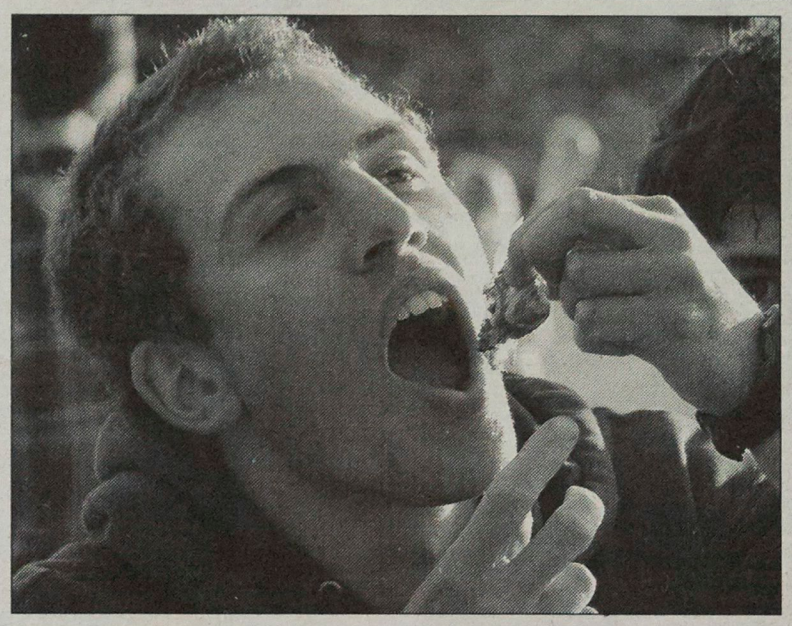
The Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC) held its annual "Flaming Flamingo" bash at Branbury State Park on Lake Dunmore last Friday afternoon. Despite cloudy and cold morning weather, the afternoon proved quite sunny for the 200-some Middkids who turned out for the event.

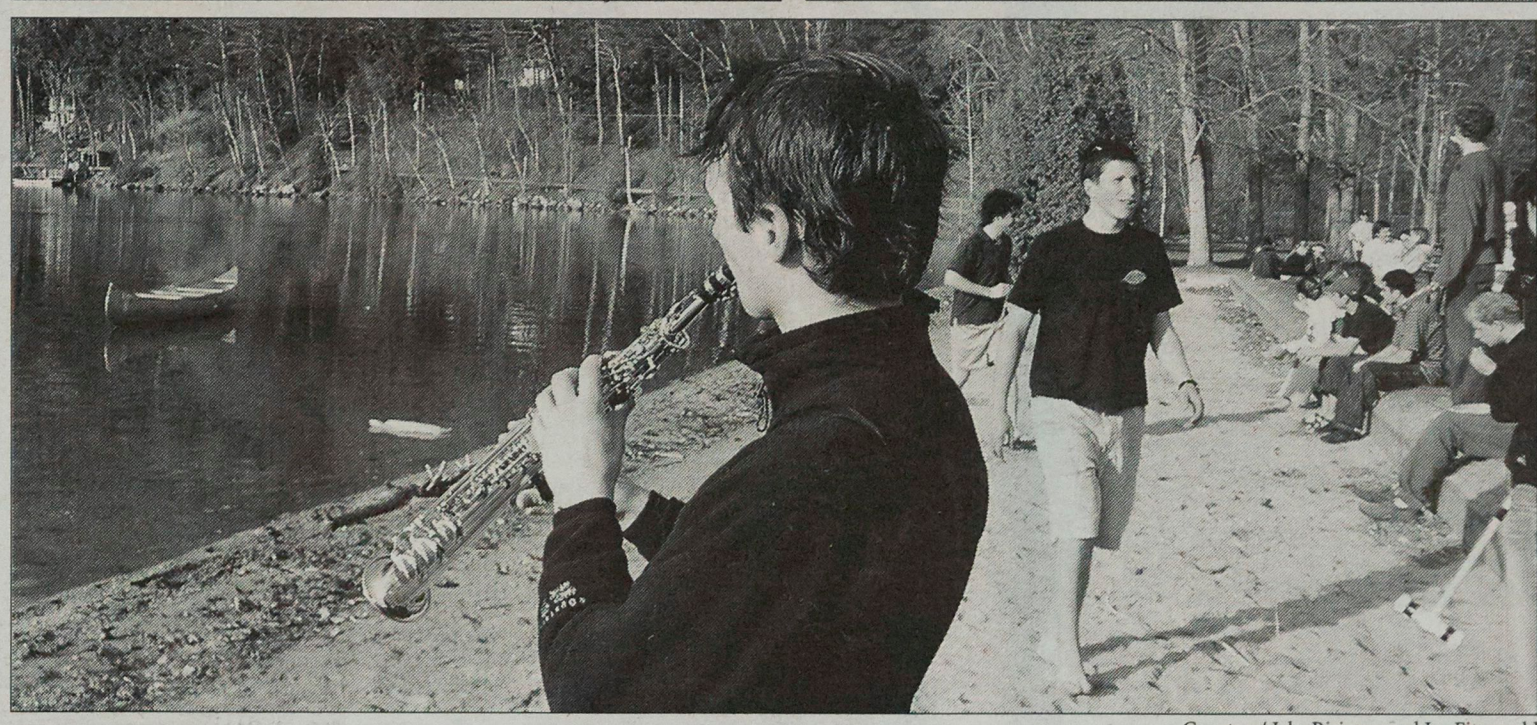
"I was super, super excited," said MMC President Andy Hale '06. "We had an amazing turnout and everyone had a good time."

MMC Social Chair Katie Clagett '06 agreed, saying that her first Flaming Flamingo was "good fun." Her most memorable moment was "seeing the flamingo getting pushed out into the water... with the sunset in the background and all the people around."

Photos: (clockwise from top left) Smoke rises from several grilles as Flaming Flamingo-ers barbecue their dinner. Jeremy Osborn '06.5 provides festive blue-grass tunes. A group of friends kick back for a friendly game of croquet. Christopher Lizotte '06 provides mood music as crowds watch the flaming flamingo drift from shore. Andy Hale '06 enjoys... the barbecue. Carrie Childs '06 and others paddle to their hearts' content on the clear waters of Lake Dunmore.







Courtesy/ Jake Risinger and Jay Fitzgerald

POPROCKS

BY LANFORD BEARD

A certain former Seattle scene queen is no longer feeling the Love of her friends, fans or peers. The rocker on the rocks *du jour* is, of course, Courtney Love. In a slew of bungled court appearances, mean-spirited lawsuits and public displays of dejection, the widow of Kurt Cobain and former lead singer of Hole is living testament that life in Hollywood is not the jet-setting, couture-clad spree of fabulousness that Britney, Jessica or Hilary would have us believe.

Of course, maybe it is when starlets, rocker grrrls and flashes in the pan are young, supple and willing to compromise their still lucrative bodies. For "America's Sweetheart" Love, though, the path that was once paved with the gold grunge records is now swiftly crumbling under her pill-popping, heart-stopping plunge over the deep end.

When I met Courtney in December, she seemed to be returning to the quasi-stability of life in the limelight. Crossing paths at the trendy Tribeca Asian fusion bôite "66," lady Love was, as always, a little loopy. She did spend an inordinate amount of time in the ladies' room at one point, but overall the rumors of Angry Courtney attacking service employees fell flat.

I slyly stalked outside for a taxi (i.e. to follow her and strike up a conversation). Perhaps it was my obvious deference that struck the right tone (and the fact that I could, in a rapid-fire fan test, name several of her songs), but my conversation with Courtney was generally pleasant, as she seemed more willing than most stars to talk to her fans as if they were normal people.

I won't lie, she looked like hell and talked primarily about drugs, but Courtney also addressed my mother as 'ma'am' and philosophized on how her childhood had led her to her current state of lapse. She voiced a strong desire to record and release her upcoming album and, implicitly, to sort out her life.

Flash forward a few weeks: in one night, Courtney was arrested for breaking and entering an ex-boyfriend's house and sent to the emergency room for drug overdose. After that, her daughter was placed in alternate custody, and she has recently been in and out of court for assaulting fans. She has arrived late and drugged to her trials, to the chagrin of her lawyers.

The moral of the story? Discounting Love's unique status as rock-n-roll burnout, the starving-for-attention life of a celebrity is an ugly mess sometimes. Clichéed but true, the life of celebrity excess (exemplified by figures like Todd Bridges, Leif Garrett and Mackenzie) does not always end in a Golden Globe nomination, a few leftover bottles of Cristal and out-of-season designer duds.

In this regard, I have only a few words to say: Watch out, Avril Lavigne. Kick life's ass long enough, and eventually it will kick yours.

BY VENESSA WONG

Every year, Earth Day reminds us to reflect on the relationship humans have with the environment. Although students may be used to participating in ecologically sustainable practices, it is also important that they reconsider their relationship with nature in order to understand the deeper implications of their conduct towards the environment.

For the ancients, such as Plato and Aristotle, nature was something elevated, for man to admire and seek. The goal of philosophy was to understand the truth, which had its place in nature, beyond ordinary human comprehension. Plato used the natural image of the sun to represent the truth, which revealed itself to the enlightened. Understanding nature was considered true knowing, and the ancients encouraged a life of leisure and contemplation over one of activity.

However, thinkers in the 16th and 17th centuries, like Bacon and Hobbes, criticized the ancients for being trapped in speculation. They believed that materialism, or consideration of secular things, would be more practical than a grateful reflection on nature. Humans were no longer seen as contemplative creatures, but rather industrious ones, and nature was removed from its high position and transformed into something to be utilized rather than observed.

For Adam Smith, a philosopher of the 18th century, nature became the object of man's labor, supplying him with material things, and science became man's tool for refining nature and altering it to fit his ideals.

In evaluating man's view of nature, it is important to distinguish between approaching the environment as something to be observed or something to be manipulated. Christopher Howell '05, a volunteer at the Middlebury College Organic Garden and former co-president of MISD, believes that industry should both use nature and give back to it.

He attributes modern environmental issues to a disconnect between people and their local human and natural communities. "We're brought up to see human as separate from nature," he noted, "[Only] when we go for a walk in the park or plant a tree for Arbor Day, [do] we step briefly into the natural world—a world we are neither rooted [in] nor [are] accountable to."

Benjamin Brouwer '04, an environmental science and geography joint major, believes that it is important to treat elements of nature as *subjects* and not *objects*. "If we all could realize that we're wrapped up in this complex thing called 'nature' maybe we'd be less likely to brutalize it [and] ourselves," he said.

It seems that the general view of nature today is something between pure observation and manipulation. Although modern society tends toward the latter, Howell suggests that activities such as working in local, familiar places can help reduce the problematic gap between people and nature.

Films portray Mid-East conflict

By Polly Johnson
Staff Writer

The conflict and hardship that torment the daily lives of citizens in the Middle East was the focus of two important documentaries shown on Thursday night as part of the College's Human Rights Film Festival.

"Promises" documents the lives of seven Israeli and Palestinian children between 1995 and 2000, viewing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through the seemingly innocent eyes of children. However, their descriptions of personal family tragedy and the horror they witness in everyday life makes it clear that these youngsters are fully aware of the situation and hold their own opinions about it. The documentary reaches the core of the children's personalities, showing that they are, at heart, humorous, well-spoken and intelligent kids, who would often rather discuss sports than political conflict.

One of the filmmakers, B.Z. Goldberg, visited Palestinian refugee camps, Israeli settlements on the West Bank and neighborhoods in and around Jerusalem. "Promises" follows him as he meets and interviews each child. Although the children were all between nine and 12 years old when the film was shot, all were politically aware.

The most touching segment of the documentary comes towards the end when Goldberg arranges for all eight of the children to meet. They play, eat and talk, and by the end of the visit gather in one of the family's living rooms for a final, emotional conversation. Many of them start crying as they are reminded of slain family members and the brutality they have had to endure throughout their lives. The youth are extremely profound and even Goldberg begins to cry as he realizes the futility in attempting to unite the Israelis and Palestinians.

The most frustratingly sad revelation comes at the end of the film, when the children are interviewed again two years later, only to find that nothing has changed politically or personally. The two Israeli boys, who have lost their innocent, boyish appearances, say that they tried to keep in touch with the kids that they had bonded with that day, but the checkpoints that prevent Palestinians from venturing into Israeli neighborhoods make it virtually impossible to see them. The children provide an untraditional view of the conflict in this extremely poignant documentary.

The other film, "Generation X-Saddam," documents filmmaker Shelley Saywell's revisit to Iraq after having conducted interviews of Iraqis in 2003, prior to the war. As she searches for the people she met, she explores the site of a ruined university where she had interviewed a student, the desolate and virtually obliterated streets of Baghdad and a prison in which the most gruesome acts of human violence were committed under Saddam Hussein's regime.

Saywell locates all her protagonists and conducts more candid interviews now that Hussein is ousted from power. The link between the characters is their acute sense of the surrounding chaos and their constant fear of the future. Anti-American sentiment exists, however, as many of the interviewees are unsure of what the American military presence in Iraq is accomplishing. Some question which is worse — the dreadful, oppressive presence of Hussein's regime, or the American presence, which has imposed numerous restrictions on Iraqis, such as curfews and checkpoints, and has made ruins out of Baghdad.

IN THE GROOVE

Vlad Lodoaba

Playing the FIC parking lot, local band The Green Gold Groove provided the soundtrack to Thursday's Earth Day barbeque.

Screenings expose rights violations

By Abigail Mitchell
Staff Writer

Fact: In 40 U.S. states it is legal to fire an employee for being homosexual.
Fact: Rape is the most underreported crime in America.
Fact: 4.7 million South Africans are currently infected with HIV.
Fact: The majority of people are not exactly clear as to what constitutes a human rights violation.

With generous support from Cook Commons, J.S. Woodward '06 organized the Middlebury College Human Rights Film Festival held from Sunday, April 18 to Saturday, April 24.

Woodward selected films that encapsulate the theme of human rights violations in the U.S. or as result of U.S. action abroad. Specific themes included universal human rights, sexual discrimination in the work place, rape, environmental injustice and contemporary immigrant life.

In addition, the festival featured a film entitled "It's My Life," which documents one HIV positive South African in his court battle against multi-national drug companies.

Woodward stated, "The purpose of the film series was to open people's eyes to what constitutes a human rights violation. Most people hear the term and think of genocide and slavery in the third world, glossing over things like date rape, job discrimination and polluted water here in the 'First World.' Until we as a culture make the decision to stop thinking of these as terrible crimes and begin to recognize them as violations of intrinsic rights, no great headway in resolving these problems will be made."

As for the Student Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC), members agree that AIDS Awareness Week, which complemented Human Rights Week, was also a success.

The goal of the week was to promote AIDS awareness and education as well as to raise money for the cause. The week began with a screening of "Kids," a documentary that examines the lives of New York City teenagers facing the perilous consequences of drugs and sex. SGAC Co-President Mateal Lovaas '06 says, "I think people were shocked and disturbed by 'Kids,' and rightfully so. It is a movie that is often called a 'shockumentary,' because of its raw, vulgar, punch-in-the-gut nature. By the end of the movie, you really realize how close AIDS could be to you."

An "AIDS 101" presentation on Thursday also aimed at going beyond the typical statistics of "Every 10 seconds somebody dies of AIDS," to examine the horrific impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on politics, economics, biology and geography.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

DORM SMOKING BAN?	**SGA CANDIDATES**
YOU CAN DO IT. THE CHILL OF A JANUARY MORNING CAN HELP.	NICE BANNERS, BUT DO YOU HAVE A PLATFORM WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?
FREE CONE DAY	**MISSING NUCLEAR RODS**
BRILLIANT BUSINESS PLAN SHOULD BE COPIED BY G. STONE MOTORS DOWN THE STREET.	DOES THIS POWER PLANT EMPLOY A MR. HOMER SIMPSON?
EARTH DAY BARBEQUE	**HAMLIN FOOD FIGHT**
FELT LIKE A SUMMER BLOCK PARTY.	SAY GOODBYE TO THE DEEP FRYER. WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO EAT ON SUNDAYS? SALAD?

Catching the fashion bug, AAA takes to the runway

Above: Carlos Beato '07 woos his woman, Kelly Gay '07 during a sexy, amusing and educational evening of culture, diversity and fabulous fashions from various countries. Freeman White '03 poses classically cool at right. The event marked AAA's 12th annual fashion show, held last Friday night in McCullough social space.

Right: Toni Spence '04 sports her scandelous "night wear" during the "Lingerie" portion of AAA's 12th annual fashion show.

Below to Left: Flashy and fashionable feet slide down stage. Friday night confidence and culture went hand in hand. These heels were made for walkin'.

Below to Right: One of the show's two emcees keeps the audience laughing.

Below: A model struts her stuff in a pair sexy stilettoes.

Photos by Vlad Lodoaba

"A myriad of body types represented in McCullough"

By Astri von Arbin Ahlander
Staff Writer

As the clock neared 8:30 p.m. on Friday night, a half hour past schedule, the air was heavy with suspense. The 12th annual fashion show, "Change Clothes and Go!," presented by African American Alliance, was about to begin.

The goal of the show was to display a real alternative to the image of beauty and bodies that is represented in media today. Vice-President of AAA Brandy Perry '04 noted, "The show is meant to promote the fact that everyone is unique and that everyone is beautiful." As the program stated, "Real women have curves and real men are not one specific height or size. This fashion show is for the entire Middlebury College community."

And so it was. There was indeed a myriad of body types represented in McCullough as women and men of all different shapes and sizes proudly walked down the runway.

The show included AAA members, but was also open to the entire College community. Christopher Heinrich '07, who participated in the "Evening Wear" and "In Da Club" sections, lauded the inclusive atmosphere. "It was great, everyone was so welcoming," he said.

The show began with models coming out as a gospel choir, and continued with the same level of intensity. The program was packed with different choreographed sections, from "Carnival" to "Evening Wear" to "Real Women Have Curves," mixed in with dance and vocal performances.

A friendly atmosphere pervaded "Change Clothes and Go!" The front row of the audience was littered with participants who sneaked out between their appearances to watch and cheer on their fellow models. Despite long pauses between sections, AAA managed to hold the audience's attention thanks to the two emcees who added to the comedy of the night with their close and spontaneously refreshing interaction.

Already in the first section, Black Brother/Soul Sista, where the models wore very similar clothing, it became evident that this was not a show just about fashion but also about the models. This was a night for women and men to strut their stuff in front of a mass of people and to show the crowd that they are proud of who they are.

Audience members soon forgot about the clothes the models were wearing and focused completely on the incredible energy and joy of the models themselves. With such charismatic participants as Yashika Walker '05, Carlos Beato '07, Charzetta Nixon '06 and Crystal Belle '04, there was no way to keep from smiling. The Lingerie section was the highlight of the show, when refreshingly different sized models came out in scandalously sexy outfits. The audience went crazy.

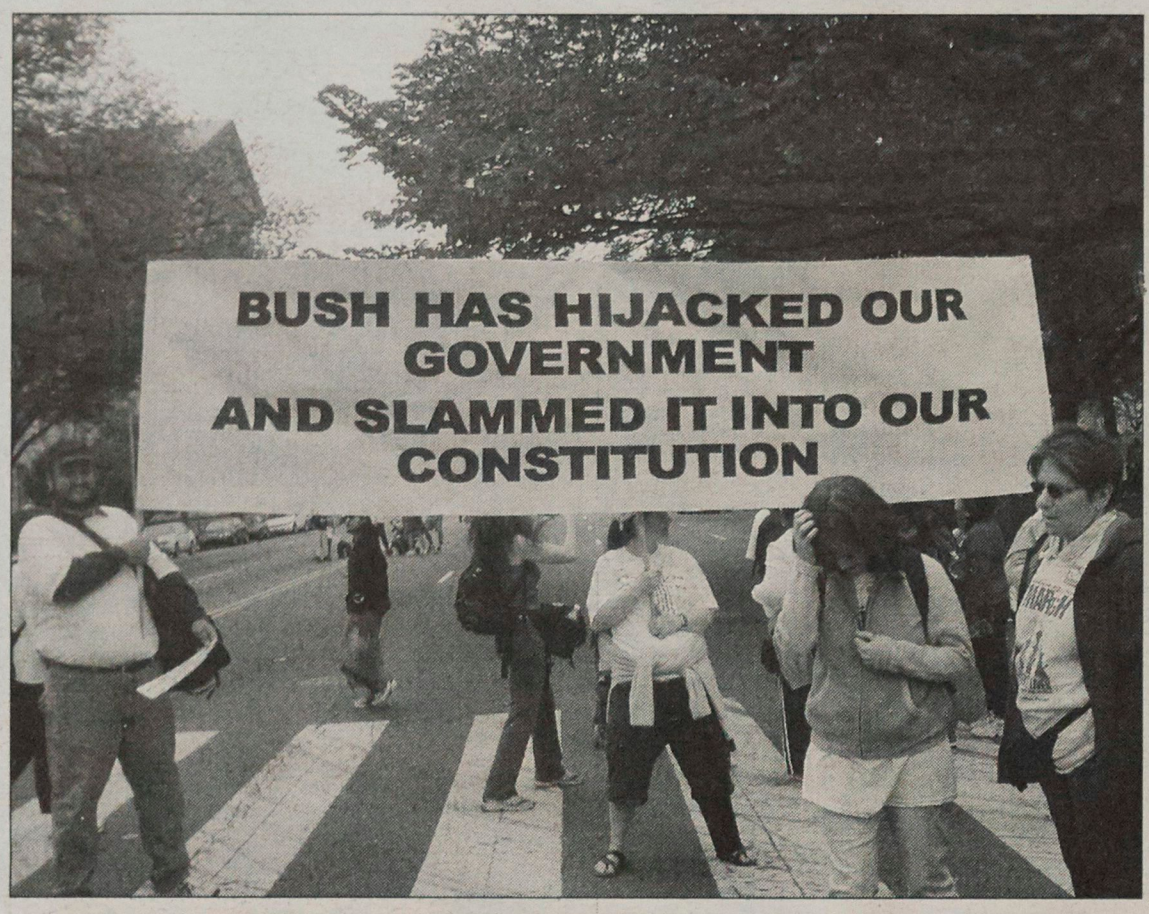
Carol Wilson '07 walked in both the "Lingerie" and "In Da Club" sections. "When I was first approached about being in the show I felt insecure, but what's great about AAA is that they make you feel really comfortable and confident — they reaffirm your beauty."

Another "Lingerie" model, Lisa Im Yuo '07, commented with flushed cheeks, "I was really nervous about going out wearing so little, but after I had walked it was the most exhilarating experience I've ever had. I couldn't believe I had done that!"

Both Wilson and Yuo agreed that participating in the show made them feel proud of the way they look. "Everyone was so positive and encouraging that I couldn't help but feel great about myself," Yuo said.

Midd-kid activists join pro-choicers in D.C.

Voices from the throng: After making history, students reflect on the experience



PHOTOGRAPHS BY KELLY HINES, CRYSTAL BELLE AND LYNN GRAY

daphnelasky '07

I went to the March for Women's Lives because I believe that all people deserve to have the information and resources necessary to make responsible decisions about their reproductive lives. This includes, but is not limited to, the right to have an abortion.

The larger pro-choice agenda is focused on making abortion "more rare and less necessary." Pro-choicers aim to empower individuals to make positive, responsible choices about their lives through instituting comprehensive sex education in schools, covering contraceptives under health insurance plans and ensuring access to emergency contraception.

The "Medical Students for Choice" group was the most moving delegation at the March. They carried signs identifying themselves as "future abortion providers" and made up one of the largest delegations at the March.

Seeing these med students brought home a very powerful reality — the decision to have an abortion (legally or illegally) ultimately involves only a woman and her doctor and is always a difficult and intensely personal decision. It is one thing to voice support for a woman's right to make these private decisions, but it is quite another to willingly face these challenging decisions on a daily basis. The courage shown by these students was astonishing, and their presence was a reminder of the human face of the debate over choice.

billbirkett '07

As a general rule I try to avoid crowds, so it should come as no surprise that I packed up this weekend and rode down to Planned Parenthood's enormous March for women's Lives in Washington, D.C. I embarked on this adventure in a van carrying seven other Midd students and one Resident Assistant, leaving on Saturday morning and arriving in the capital late that evening. I spent the night on the floor of a dorm at Georgetown University, awaking the next day bedraggled and stale, prepared to endure a day of claustrophobia, a parched mouth and temporary anorexia.

Middlebury students accompanied the Georgetown crowd to the Mall, savoring the inefficiency of Washington's mass transit system the entire way. When we eventually arrived at the March, I looked around in an astonished haze at the vastness and diversity of the group — women and men from every state, and every background and age group, all demonstrating their distrust of Bush's patriarchal regime.

In a nutshell, my morning and afternoon in downtown Washington was both physically and psychologically intense. Hours of standing around and walking made my feet ache, and the lack of food and water made me lightheaded and grouchy. The constant repetition of the same chants made me weary, and all the gory Pro-Life posters of mangled fetuses made me anxious and ready to go home.

I was troubled more than anything else, however, by the fierce division of the nation on the abortion issue itself — the pro-life counter-demonstrators acted as though each person marching had murdered hundreds of babies, while the pro-choice contingent screamed as if the Bush administration were implementing some sort of 1984-like human breeding program. As I marched along, I asked myself, "surely there must be a happy medium?"

According to the numerous speakers, I had made history by being part of the largest march in the history of the United States. I must admit that while I was promenading down Pennsylvania Avenue, the Capitol building sprawling out in front of me, I felt a little bit triumphant, like I was part of something infinitely bigger than myself. (But then I remembered how much I really wanted a hot dog.)

Pro-choice marchers flood National Mall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that the government has withdrawn monetary support from organizations at home and abroad that support abortion or provide abortion counseling.

The March on Washington was not officially declared a political protest, but anti-Bush sentiments were both visible and audible. The march was spurred in part by the Bush administration's fight against the Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision, which legalized abortion in 1973. Additionally, Planned Parenthood has recently endorsed John Kerry's presidential candidacy because of his "decisive" pro-choice stance.

The mass of protestors packed the Mall during a four-hour rally surrounding the actual march. Many national political figures, Hollywood celebrities and feminist icons were present, including Hillary Clinton, Whoopi Goldberg and Janeane Garafalo. Speakers and performers criticized the recent mixing of governmental policy and religious values that many feel has put women's rights in danger.

These sentiments were echoed by demonstrators chanting slogans such as, "Bush, get your rosaries off my ovaries," and "Not the church, not the state, women should decide their fate." As the throng of pro-choice women, men and children surged up Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, anti-abortion demonstrators lined the sidewalks. No violent or physical confrontations took place between the opposing groups, although some demonstrators exchanged shouts of defiance. Katie Belon '07 responded to the presence of anti-abortion protestors. "I respect them for coming out, but some of their signs were extreme and offensive," she said.

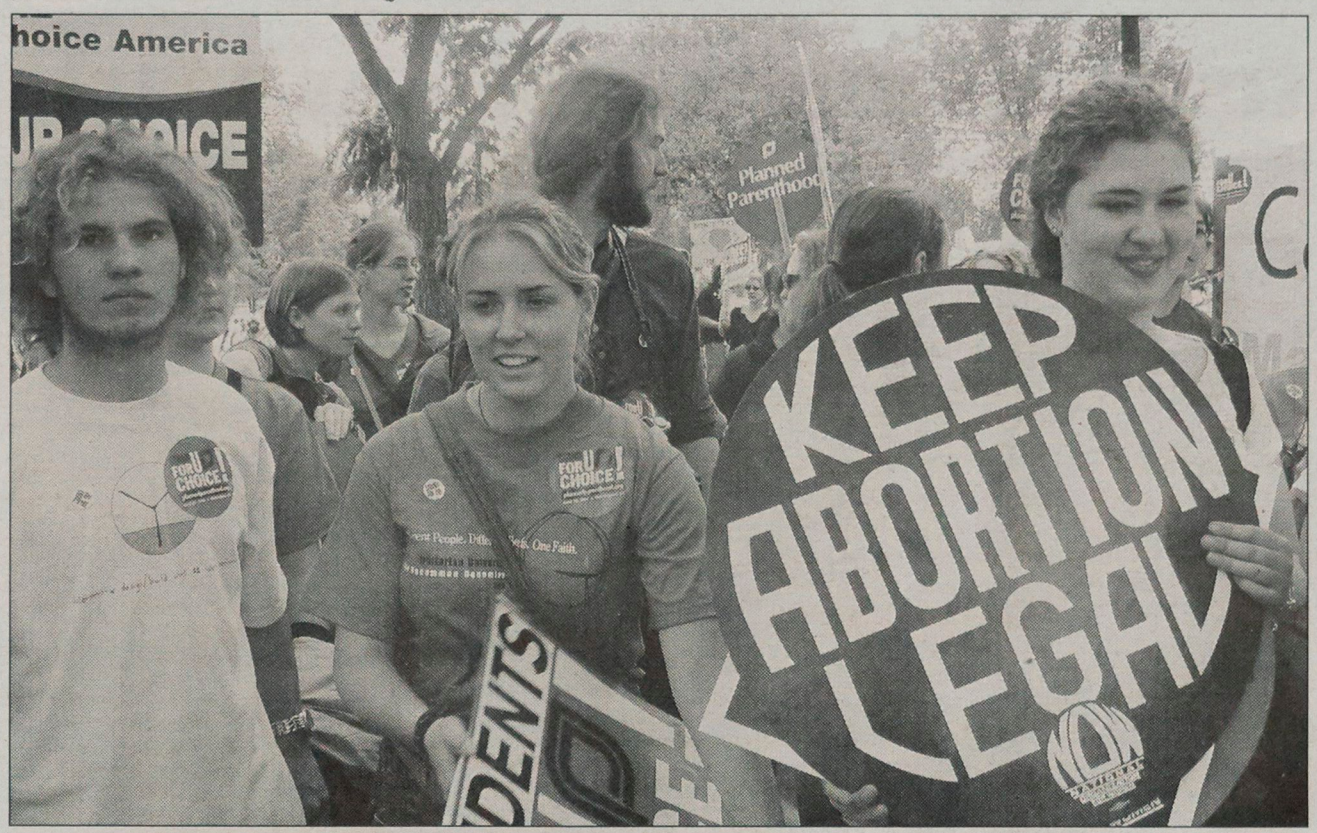
In response to shouts of "Murderers!" and signs depicting mutilated fetuses, pro-choice groups began yelling, "Pro-life, your name is a lie, you don't care if women die." A few pro-life groups prayed aloud against abortion and held out religious images. Others advocated adoption as the best "choice." Many stood solemnly with posters reading, "We support children who don't exist," and "Women need love, not abortions."

Controversy over abortion rights was also apparent within religious sects. A handful of Catholics turned out in favor of abortion with the slogan, "I'm another Catholic for choice." Others responded with signs reading, "You can't be Catholic and for choice."

Men of all ages were well represented at the march. Duncan Sanford '06 commented, "I do think that [abortion] is a woman's issue, [and] she should be able to choose. I'm protesting the people who are saying [women] shouldn't have that choice. If men have an interest in equal rights they should march."

Many families also turned out to march in the streets, some with three generations of demonstrators. People carried toddlers on their hips and pushed babies in strollers, while some pregnant women revealed their rounded bellies and wore stickers reading, "I'm pro-choice," or "Every child a wanted child." Older women remembered a time when abortions were illegal. Some wore buttons with red slashes through coat hangers on them or called out, "Back alleys, no more, abortion rights for rich and poor!"

The packed subway trains were delayed all day due to over-crowded platforms, but the crowds of people clad in vibrant colors waited patiently, exchanging stories and ideas and admiring each other's posters. As Ian Ausprey '04 said, "[The march] made me realize how people can really rally behind a cause. I was really excited by the number of people and the energy."



ON THE RECORD

SOUNDBITES FROM THE MARCH FOR WOMEN'S LIVES

"Even if we had a million people ... we've got to inspire long-term, active commitment... Our idea was to leave the next generation with something better."
— Eleanor Smeal, President of Feminist Majority

"If all we do is march today, that will not change the direction this country is headed under this administration."
— Hillary Rodham Clinton

"Seventy-seven percent of anti-abortion leaders are men. One-hundred percent of them will never get pregnant."
— National Organization for Women poster slogan

"The fact that they have large crowds means nothing. There were big crowds for Hitler in 1935. That didn't help him in 1945."
—Randall Terry, founder Operation Rescue and anti-abortion group, Society for Truth and Justice

"[The pro-choice movement] is not about people being irresponsible... It's about the fact that our society can't take care of all the children being created."
— Kelsey Smith '07

"I went down there conflicted about my views on abortion ... I still have a lot to think about."
— Ian Ausprey '04

"The pro-choice movement gets a bad rap ... Women do deserve better than abortion, but the choice [to have one] needs to remain."
— Kate Doorley '06

Abortion analyzed

Number of demonstrators at the March
(police and park service officials no longer provide official headcounts):

— March sponsors claim 1.15 million
— Anti-abortion groups claim only 250,000
— Local police officials gave unofficial estimate of 500,000-800,000

March Participants (*Los Angeles Times* estimate):

—1/3 of demonstrators were high school and college students

Failure rates for family planning methods
(Statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO); Depatment of Reproductive Health and Research):

— Combined oral contraceptives (pills): 1% to 8%
—Condoms – male: 12%
—Condoms – female: 5% to 21%
—Natural family planning: 20%
—Emergency contraception: 2% to 4% per use

Death rates (deaths per 100, 000) caused by abortion
(Statistics from the World Health Organization; Department of Reproductive Health and Research):

— Legal abortion:
United States of America: 1
Developing Countries*: 4-6
— Illegal abortion**
United States of America: 50
Developing Countries*: 100-1,000

* Estimated ** Performed by untrained practitioners or outside medical facilities

emily theriault '07

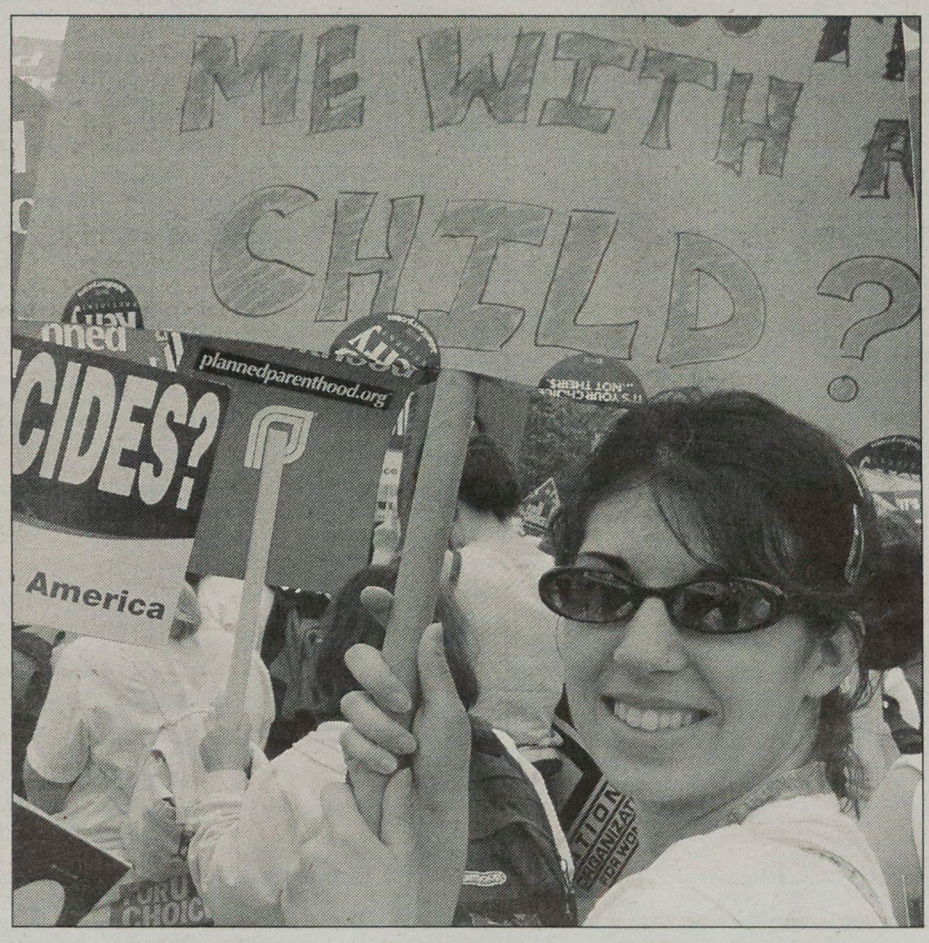
The March for Women's Lives in D.C. was one of the most invigorating experiences of my life. I was motivated to go because I have a strong internal conviction that a woman has the right to control her own reproductive ability. Abortion was highlighted, but I soon realized that the issues concern so much more than that. The current administration has not only put limits on women's legal right to choose, but has also focused on abstinence-only education and decreased funding to global family planning.

I marched because until everyone gets comprehensive sex education, until birth control is covered by insurance companies, until people are given the tools for healthy sex and informed family planning, I feel we need to provide women with abortions as a last resort. Seeing hundreds of thousands of people together, united for this cause, was truly inspirational to witness.

There was just so much to take in, from the clever signs to the famous speakers, to the simple power of change in the air. The group of medical students holding signs that read, "We are tomorrow's abortion providers," was just one of the moving images of the day. I was proud to march alongside so many other students from Middlebury. I think it says a lot for the activism and values on campus. Walking through the streets of Washington, D.C., chanting for our rights, the rights of all women, was an experience I will never forget. I can only hope that we made a difference, and that our voices were and will continue to be heard.

willa brown '07

Walking down the Mall after the March, I ran into two women with posters that read, "Angry, Bitter, Middle-Aged Women STILL Marching" with the dates of three previous reproductive rights marches. When I complimented the posters, one woman grinned at me and said, "Thank you for coming. You know that all of this is for you." It was amazing to be with these women who had marched before. Women who had lived through the days of back-alley abortions and marched proudly, holding signs with their granddaughters' names and chanting, "We won't go back." These were mothers and grandmothers (the Raging Grannies) — these were women who had made history. On the drive back that night, coated in dust and listening to pop music, I realized that one day I too could say that I was there — that no matter how small, I played a part in history.



arts

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WORLD'S BEST BANJO PLAYER?
BELA FLECK AND THE FLECKTONES COME TO TOWN

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SINGING IN THE SPRING
CHAMBER SINGERS GIVE ANNUAL CONCERT

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SENIOR DIRECTS MILLER'S PLAY

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LOOKING AT PUBLIC ART ON CAMPUS

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DANCE TROUPE PERFORMS IN MCCULLOUGH

Flecktones change tone, win hearts

By Mike Ives
Staff Writer

Be forewarned, long-time Béla Fleck fans — your favorite banjo picker occasionally trades hominess for new-age spectacle.

This Saturday's MCAB-sponsored performance by Béla Fleck and the Flecktones in Kenyon Arena seemed more like a stadium rock concert than a bluegrass hoe-down in a hockey rink in Vermont. Classifying Béla Fleck has always been a difficult task, and this particular show was no exception.

The evening began with strange permutations on a bluegrass instrument. Jamie Masefield, front man of show-opener the Jazz Mandolin Project, showcased his unique jazz mandolin licks. The Jazz Mandolin Project has been Masefield's brainchild since its inception in 1997.

The Project has traditionally featured a rotating line-up (including occasional gigs by Phish drummer Jon Fishman) of mandolin, upright bass and drums. Masefield has added a trumpet/keyboardist this year. The resulting sound was noticeably fuller and more complex.

Fleck and the Flecktones took the stage to a half-full arena of college students and town residents. Fleck's ensemble includes Victor Wooten on bass, Jeff Coffin on saxophone and flutes and the aptly titled "Future Man" on his "syntax drumatar."

The Flecktones cruised through a well-balanced set of slick, instrumental jazz, funk and new age experimentation. Several tunes in the set were drawn directly from Fleck's new album, "Little Worlds."

To the approval of the old-time music contingent, Fleck closed the show with a solo banjo medley of ragtime and bluegrass standards, interspersed with several Beatles songs. The Flecktones returned for an encore to perform "Stomping Grounds."

The Flecktones pride themselves on their appeal to a wide variety of audiences. Unfortunately, Saturday night's crowd at Kenyon Arena was not as worldly as its entertainers. Overall, the response to the Flecktones, a Grammy award-nominated group whose banjo and bass players have respectively been called the greatest in the world, was lukewarm.

Forty-one year-old Fleck boasts perhaps the most impressive and innovative record of any banjo player in history. Born in Manhattan, he was inspired to play banjo by the music of bluegrass great Earl Scruggs.

He moved from the largest cultural mecca in the world in the 1980s to pursue his musical dreams in the capital of American roots music — Nashville, Tenn. While residing in Nashville, he joined the progressive bluegrass group New Grass Revival.

Fleck formed his current arrangement of The Flecktones in 1989. He has since made dozens of recordings spanning genres from bluegrass to classical.

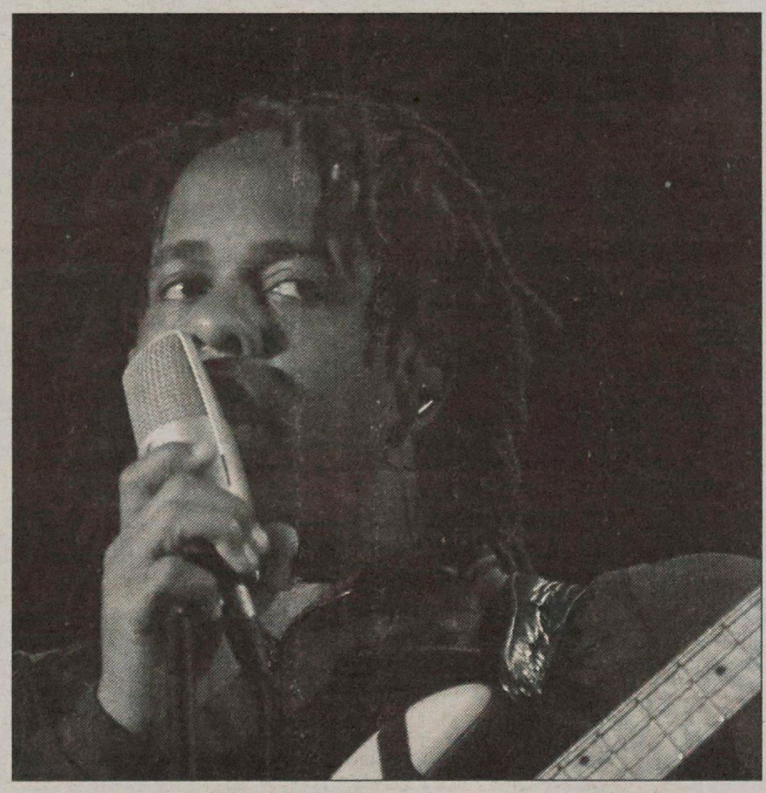
This history explains to some extent Fleck's intermittent lapses between "futuristic rocker," "upper-west-sider" and "Nashville session player" personas during his Kenyon performance. On stage Fleck was visibly enjoying his elusiveness, smiling coyly on occasion and otherwise staring contently into space or at his banjo.

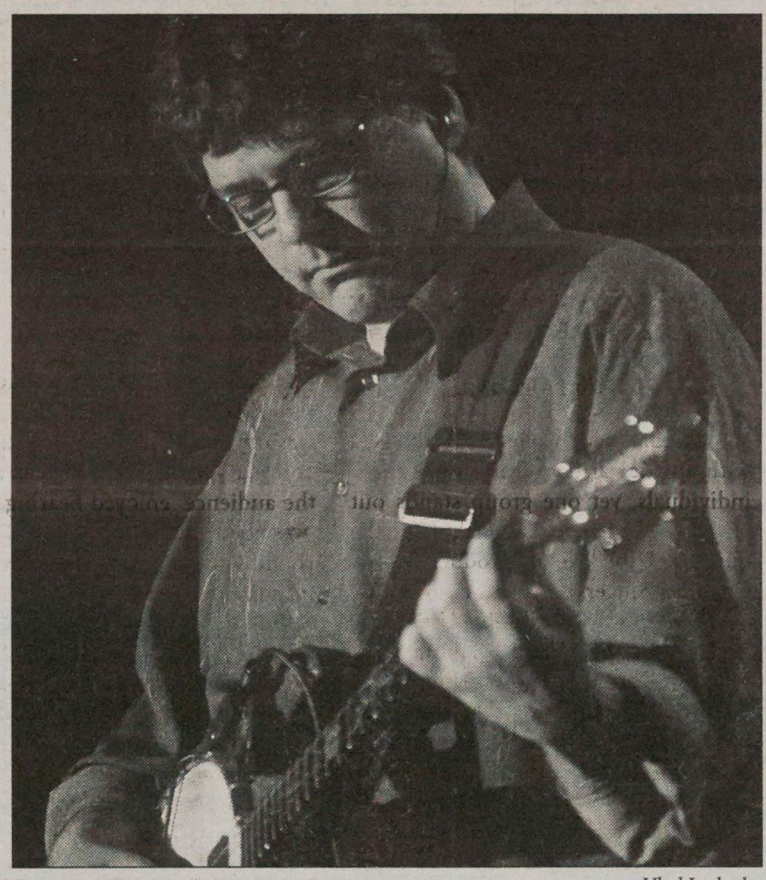
Victor Wooten, in his introduction to Fleck solo set, stated sarcastically that the banjo is not a real instrument.

In some ways, he echoed the sentiment of some in the audience who had doubtless ever seen a banjo played before the evening's performance.

However, the crowd seemed to respond most heartily to the solo banjo interlude. Between his countrified riffs, Fleck would look up in an amused and almost fatherly way.

Perhaps through his medley he had finally discovered the common musical denominator of this Green Mountain campus — good clean pickin'.





Vlad Lodoaba

Victor Wooten (top) and Béla Fleck (above) proved their musical versatility in front of a strong turn-out in Kenyon Arena.

Vlad Lodoaba

The syntax drumatar musician Futureman/Royal-el sported his signature pirate cap and complementing attire on Saturday evening.

DANCING FOR GONZALES

Vlad Lodoaba

Visiting Guest Artist Lisa Gonzales '94 presented an afternoon and evening of dance last weekend. Her works explored the depths and complexities of human relationships.

Chamber singers ring true

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

Middlebury College is blessed with a wide variety of musically gifted individuals, yet one group stands out not for any one performer but for the quality of the overall product — the Chamber Singers.

The choral ensemble held its Spring Concert Saturday, April 24, in the Center for the Arts. Those who passed up the early stages of the Béla Fleck concert were treated to a breathtaking display of music ranging from the early Tudor period to the modern compositions of Whitacre and Lauridsen.

Directed by Special Projects Manager for DLIs Jeff Rehbach, the singers paraded in, each one adorned with a rose for the occasion. The quality of the group was immediately clear as the audience was treated a rendition of "Haec dies," written by William Byrd in the late 16th and early 17th centuries.

Each piece was just as magnificent as the one before, with the singers transitioning effortlessly from Latin to English between songs on more than one occasion. The first half of the show ended with a quartet of pieces by Johannes Brahms. The singers evidently spent a great deal of time learning the diction and the word pronunciations, as they seemed to flow flawlessly through the works.

Rehbach stepped aside during two pieces in the opening section — "O vos omnes" and "Ave Maria," — conducted by Jessica Isler '04, who completed her independent study in conducting. Of the pieces sung on the night, none were more complex than those by Samuel Barber, which came after the brief intermission.

Rehbach explained that the songs "Mary Hynes" and "The Coolin" were from poems written by the Irish of Raftery — an Irishman who wandered the Emerald Isle writing poems about anything he chose — and translated by James Stephens. Samuel Barber then wrote the music, and the result, as performed by the Chamber Singers produced, Rehbach conducting.

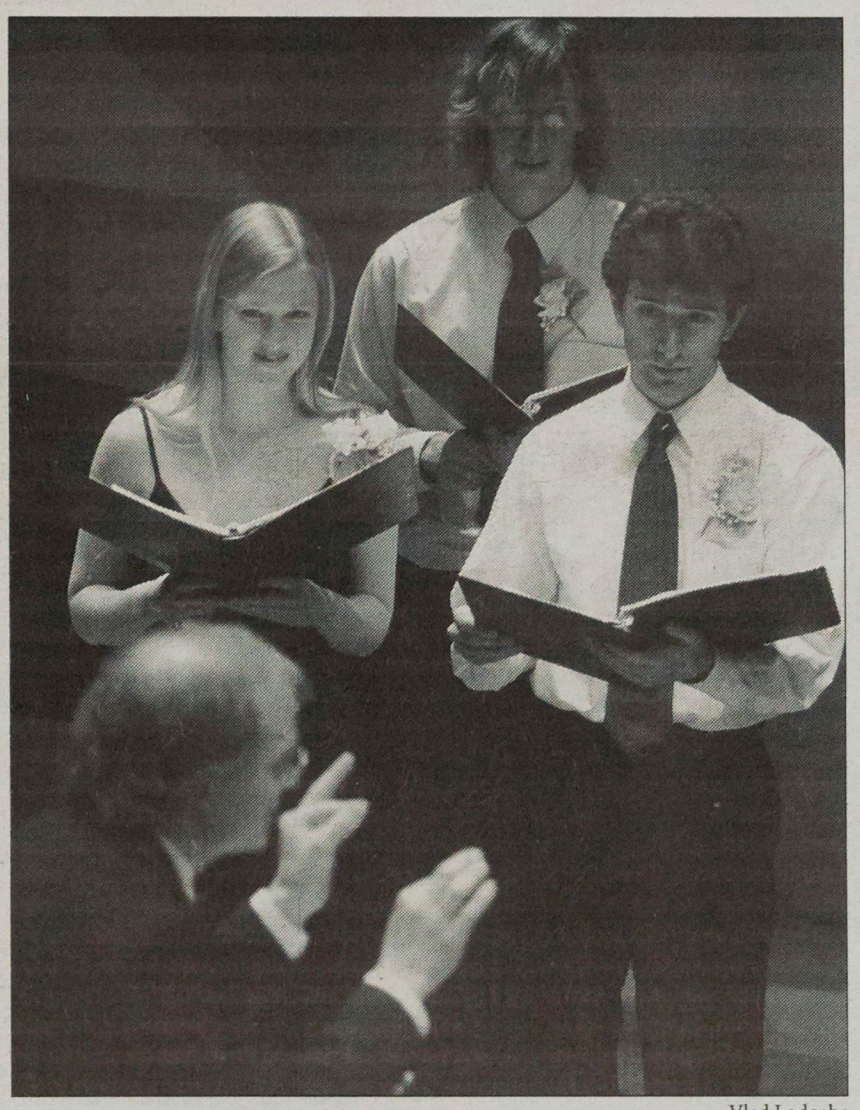
A change of pace ensued as the show continued with four satirical poems on love. The audience laughed at the humor and satire in each piece. It was obvious that the Chamber Singers enjoyed singing the songs as much as the audience enjoyed hearing them. It was a unique style of song and one that would be considered unconventional in such a setting, yet it produced a wonderful contrast to the relative orthodoxy of the previous pieces.

The highlight of the night was still to come, though, as the group launched into a magnificent version of the well-known song, "The Drunken Sailor."

Commenting on the Chamber Singers' rendition of the song, Ryan Reese '06 said, "It was a furious finish to the concert. The crescendo and tension throughout the piece climaxed in some powerful chords to wrap up the song." It was a truly memorable song that brought the show to a close and the audience to a standing ovation.

Following an encore of Eric Whitacre's "Lux Aurumque," the curtain fell, bringing to a close this year's feast of Chamber Singers music.

With just four seniors graduating, the majority of the group will remain together for a while yet, no doubt continuing to improve under Rehbach's guidance.



Vlad Lodoaba

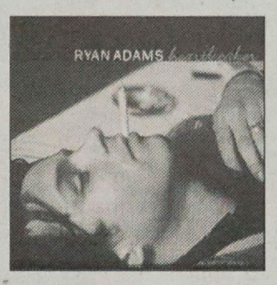
Jeff Rehbach conducts Mary Montgomery '04, Scott Guenther '06.5, Daniel Koppel '04 and the rest of the Chamber Singers Saturday night.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY ERIKA MERCER

THE ARTIST
BELLE & SEBASTIAN
THE ALBUM
IF YOU'RE FEELING SINISTER
RELEASE DATE
JUNE 23, 1999

This album knows me in all moods. It's cheery when I'm upbeat, it's cynical when I'm ironic, and it's miserable when I'm glum. Besides, subversion fits all moods, and it's got plenty of it — on the album's title track, frontman Stuart Murdoch, in his high, treble voice, sings, "She was into S&M and Bible studies / Not everyone's cup of tea, she would admit to me." So if you're feeling sinister, indulge. You won't find anything tastier.
SONG TO PLAY: "Judy and the Dream of Horses" (#10)



THE ARTIST
RYAN ADAMS
THE ALBUM
HEARTBREAKER
RELEASE DATE
SEPT. 5, 2000

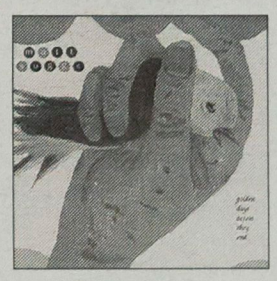
Post-Whiskeytown and pre-Gap ad, this is by far Adams' best album. Perfectly under-produced and a little rough around the edges, "Heartbreaker" pulls off the scruffy, unshaven look better than Brad Pitt. It's got just enough attitude to make you bicker and just enough twang to pluck at your heartstrings and force you to make up again. This is country at its best.
SONG TO PLAY: "My Winding Wheel" (#3)

THE ARTIST
NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL
THE ALBUM
IN AN AEROPLANE OVER THE SEA
RELEASE DATE
FEB. 10, 1998

Listening to this album, I've often wondered whether frontman Jeff Magnum might not be one brick short of a load. Who writes deranged lyrics about kings of carrot flowers and two-headed boys? But when I find myself singing along at full pitch with his nasally voice, I stop wondering. There is something absolutely mouth-watering about Magnum's nonsense. He gives you the key to his personal wacky toyshop, and you just can't stop playing.
SONG TO PLAY: "King of Carrot Flowers, Pt. 1" (#1)

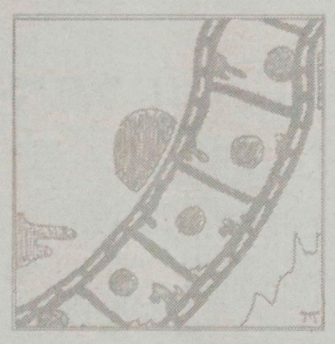
THE ARTIST
LOW
THE ALBUM
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE
RELEASE DATE
FEB. 13, 2001

This album survives in a wasteland. It moves slowly, putting one foot in front of the other, admiring the subtle beauty of its own footprints. With a sound so soft as to barely reach above the sound of your own thoughts, and with an intensity so deep as to stir your subconscious fears, Low creates an effect to which few other bands even come close. This is an album to listen to alone on a quiet day.
SONG TO PLAY: "Closer" (#11)



THE ARTIST
MATT SUGGS
THE ALBUM
GOLDEN DAYS BEFORE THEY END
RELEASE DATE
JUNE 6, 2000

I feel guilty. I keep taking this album for granted. It's a lot like macaroni and cheese — the perfect dish when there's nothing else you're quite in the mood to eat. Not that the album is plain — its lyrics are dark and quirky, its sound is full and at times unpredictable. Compared at times to Stephen Malkmus, Suggs plays with words and images like a juggler with knives — carefully, knowingly, and impressively. Not a show to be missed.
SONG TO PLAY: "Soon the Moon Will Glow" (#2)



THE REEL CRITIC

BY AARON STRUMWASSER

MOVIE | CHINESE CONNECTION
DIRECTOR | BRUCE LEE

To appreciate "Kill Bill Vol. 1," you have to step inside director Quentin Tarantino's frame of reference. In other words, you have to rent a truckload of dubbed-over kung fu movies from the 70s. Mind you, these videocassettes are very, very hard to find. But, compared to the first "Kill Bill," they aren't hard to watch. For no matter how much Tarantino would like us to think that his "Kill Bill" franchise is a tribute to gratuitously violent movies, it is also a tribute to violence itself.

In a 1996 issue of *Premiere*, the novelist David Foster Wallace put it best — "Quentin Tarantino is interested in watching somebody's ear getting cut off; David Lynch is interested in the ear." How right Wallace was then, and how right he is now. As Tarantino has sliced and diced that ear into obscurity, Lynch has looked for an infection.

But sometimes we're in the mood for some ear abuse. So if you didn't like the first "Kill Bill" and are hesitant to see the second (despite the glowing reviews), then you should check out Bruce Lee's all but forgotten "Chinese Connection." The title we can trace back to its Franco-American predecessor, "The French Connection." But its lineage ends there. That is, unless you expect the plot of a kung fu movie to be inventive.

For what it's worth, the story goes like this. After a group of nationalistic Japanese karate students terrorize a Chinese karate school and kill its headmaster for literal kicks, Chen Zhen (Lee) takes on the entire Japanese student-body. And he does it alone. Forget about a partner, not to mention special effects. Chen has to fight alone, if only to save anyone he might care about from getting in his way. In one of his moves, which I call "The Helicopter," he grabs in each of his hands a bad guy by the feet, spins them around and then lets go, sending them head-first in opposite directions. This kind of violence is harmless, bloodless fun that the whole family can enjoy. You can even try it at home, as long as your two volunteer victims are your own size.

Unlike us, however, Lee is peerless. His deadly serious stare, his hypnotic hand gestures and his taut, aerodynamic poses are all inimitable. (I've tried them, believe me.) Like one of his enemies, you're afraid to turn your back on him. And when you watch him in all his undefeatable glory, you'll either laugh in disbelief or wish you had an impressive set of weights in your dorm room.

In addition to Lee, "The Chinese Connection" has another great quality — its dubbing. The man who plays Wu, the most antagonizing of the film's villains, sounds like Johnny Carson coming down from a whip-it binge. Bruce Lee himself sounds only an octave more dignified. The result is that "The Chinese Connection" is unintentionally lighthearted at certain moments and devastatingly French New Wave-like at others. The final shot — a startling freeze-frame — for example, might owe something to the end of "The 400 Blows." Or perhaps it's just meant to look totally awesome. That's what a good action movie does.

It entertains on its own terms. And even if it manages to makes us wonder where the ideas behind the action came from, like some recent Quentin Tarantino productions, a nagging curiosity isn't the only thing the movie has left us with.

Albert Bitici

Meghan Nesmith '06, Retta Leaphart '06 and Meghan Young '07 tend to an unconscious Lisa Zaval '07 in "The Crucible."

Otherwise solid 'Crucible' production lacks immediacy

By Joyce Man
Staff Writer

In 1953, at the Martin Beck Theatre on Broadway, Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" excoriated McCarthy's "reds under the beds" anti-communist hysteria through parallels to the witch trials in Salem, Mass., in 1692.

Today, as the world struggles against terrorist threats, the fear and hysteria of 1953 and 1692 appear very much alive.

The shadows are exaggerated or deformed depending on the angle of the light passing through from behind, just like the amorphous and powerful mysterious evil.

It is therefore puzzling that this past weekend's production of "The Crucible," directed by Amanda Knappman '04 as her senior project and performed in Hepburn Zoo, was completely detached from current realities.

No one expected the 17th century Puritan New Englanders to sport turbans, or to see Saddam Hussein's silhouette flash across the stage. But in the insecurity of the present day, and in light of the fact that Miller's play is defined as social commentary, the absence of any reference to America's recent culture of fear was as conspicuous as the disappearance of Osama bin Laden after 9/11.

But politics aside, Knappman deserves due credit for her direction.

What was excellent about the Zoo adaptation was the opening, in which five young girls rush around stage hysterically in a well-choreographed sequence, before dancing ominously in a five-pointed circle reminiscent of a satanic star.

Finally, Abigail Williams, played by Retta Leaphart '06, starts a rising round of cries, ripping the conscience of the audience with a collective blood-curdling scream worthy of Hitchcock. In this powerful introduction she pulls the audience right to the heart of the matter — hysteria.

Knappman explained, "I have always been fascinated by Miller's play because of its interest in hysteria. I have tried to create a piece in which hysteria combines many things that we experience today — peer-pressure, conformity and the power of authority."

In the collective dance and chorus of the opening we see peer pressure and conformity, and in Abigail's leadership, we glimpse the power of someone who eventually corrupts the system of official authority for vengeful gains.

The girls' five-person circle and wild, animal-like cries cloud the verity of later claims of their innocence and purity.

Thus, Knappman recreates the ambiguity and suspicion of 1692 Salem.

The production starred Andrew Zox '05 and Laura Rockefeller '04, who were great to watch as the main protagonists John and Elizabeth Proctor, but even more enticing as a couple in interaction with each other.

Zox, who has already displayed his mastery of nuance and stage presence in January's "Electra," now establishes himself as a highly adaptive actor.

His ambling stance and contemplative eyes completed the image of a good-natured but fallen John Proctor.

Rockefeller, whose quiet character carries less speech in the script, was eloquent in expression, sustaining propriety and calm next to her hot-tempered counterpart.

Put together, they place the dilemmas of cowardly self-preservation versus higher morality, love and forgiveness, at the forefront of the play.

Equally flexible and expressive was the stage set, designed by Estye Ross '04 in collaboration with Knappman.

The backdrop, made of hanging white muslin, amplified the actors' actions, since they could gesticulate and create shadows from behind its sheath.

Here, we finally meet with the invisible, omnipresent enemy.

The shadows are exaggerated or deformed depending on the angle of the light passing from behind, just like the amorphous and mysterious presence of evil.

As Ross recalls, "Knappman and I took a class at the Sorbonne in Paris together, where we explored what it meant when an actor was onstage in a form other than himself, for example as projection. We used shadows to create an impression that the stage was constantly surrounded by people, always watching from behind."

The set was a welcome innovation in the production, which stuck closely to Miller's original script and meaning.

"The characters, dialogue and story in this performance are exactly the same as those written and indicated by Miller. I do not wish to offend or contradict the power of his play," Knappman said.

Knappman's adherence to Miller's version, however, appears to have restricted her from forging a telling of the well-known Salem witch-hunt trials that is relevant to today's world.

In terms of innovation and relation to the social fears of today's audience, this adaptaton of "The Crucible" had the potential to be much more provocative.

Knappman certainly does not offend by cutting out scenes from Miller's original — in fact one wishes she would manipulate Miller's words with some of the creativity that marked portions of the play.

Museum closing for renovation

The Museum will undergo physical restorations after it closes its doors to the public on May 3.

By Aysegul Savas
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Museum of Art will soon be closing for a four-month renovation.

Now on its 14th year in the Center for the Arts, the Museum will undergo physical restorations after it closes its doors to the public on May 3.

Museum Coordinator Douglas Perkins '94 stated that the museum's renovation is aimed at improving "the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in several of its storage areas, as well as removal of the skylight units above its upper galleries."

When the Museum opens again on Sept. 7, it will not only present visitors with a renewed structure but also two new loan exhibits alongside its permanent collection.

One of the exhibits, scheduled to open on Tuesday, Sept. 14 in the upper gallery is "Rodin: In His Own Words."

The exhibit, organized by the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation, will display approximately 35 bronze sculptures by Rodin, one of the leading sculptors of the 19th century, also regarded by some as the greatest sculptor since Michalangelo.

The expressive sculptures, including casts of "The Spirit of War," "Claude Lorrain" and "Ugolino and Sons" will be accompanied by Rodin's own observations about them, as well as letters and explanations on the 10-step casting process, investigating the genius of the artist through his works and inspirations.

The second exhibit titled "Vermont in 1904: Photographs" by A. B. Lane, also opening on September 14, was curated by Sisca Harya '04 and Marissa L. Williamson '04 with the help of students enrolled in "Art Museums: Theory and Practice," taught in Spring 2003.

The works in the exhibit are previously unseen photographs that were chosen from over 200 glass-plate negatives in a Vermont country auction.

The photographs were taken by Adolph B. Lane, an amateur photographer from Barre, Vt., who captured the changes that Vermont was going through 100 years ago as a result of developments in industry, transportation, demographic change and increase of leisure time.

The photographs will present viewers not only with discovered art works from the 19th century but with historical and sociological portraits of Vermont.

Both the Rodin and A. B. Lane exhibits will run through December 6, 2004.

In Fall 2005, the Museum will also hold a gallery of Asian art in the lower show in honor of Robert Reiff, artist and scholar who taught art history at Middlebury College.

Aimed at displaying the richness and diversity of Asian art, the gallery will feature one Asian work of art each month.

The Museum's permanent exhibit, that will open its doors to the public on Sept. 7, holds a variety of art works ranging from Greek, Roman and Syrian Terra Cotta works as far back as seventh century B.C., Chinese works from the Tang dynasty and prints from important artists as Durer, Rembrandt and Delacroix .

The Museum of Art promises an exciting academic year to its viewers, with its new physical facilities and diverse stimulating exhibits.

is it art?

A LOOK AT THOSE WHO DARE TO STRETCH THE CREATIVE LIMITS

Rotating pieces of metal. Geometrically arranged forms. Bold letters arranged in unconventional patterns. Scrolling marquees. Gigantic-video projections. Four story murals.

These pieces are examples of public art. All art can be considered public, in the sense that anybody can access a gallery, but public art refers to a more specific body of work.

Public art is visual art that is easily accessible to the public. It may be a work commissioned specifically for a particular site, or a work sited created for a public space in general.

In the United States, there are over 250 public art programs. The majority of the organizations are based on the "percent for art" model that originated in Philadelphia in the 1950s. In addition to these funding programs, city, county and state entities along with college and university bodies give money to support public art.

At Middlebury College, the Trustees established a "One Percent for Art" policy in 1994. Under the terms of this policy, one percent of the cost of any renovation or a new construction at the College goes toward the purchase, installation and maintenance of works of art to accompany the structure. The Committee on Art in Public Places (CAPP) was established to carry out this strategy. CAPP oversees works already on campus, acquires and commissions new works and considers gifts of artworks from donators. The Committee is headed by Professor of History of Art and Architecture John Hunisak and includes faculty members, students, administrators and trustees of the College.

In one of my courses, I'm investigating and analyzing the monumental works on campus and attempting to determine which ones function best and formulate a working definition of public sculpture. The motives for public art generally have to do with beautification, cultural enrichment, creating a sense of place, stimulating thought and fostering an identity. To enhance my study I thought I might get some input from my loyal readers.

As expected, the general response among the surveyors was that public sculpture's main purposes revolved around aesthetics. However, art, as we know, has other functions as well. Sarah Berkowitz '05 identified the role of public sculptures: "[It serves] as a means of emotional expression in addition to being aesthetically appealing." Jon Erwin '05 added, "It provides the public with something to ponder and may serve as a signifier for a specific place or local."

Lizzie Allen '06 commented, "Pieces of art should be displayed in the public arena to remind people of the freedom of expression, much of which comes out in art forms such as sculptures."

Among the most eye-catching sculptures on campus are the popular "Love" cube, the emblematic Middlebury "Panther" and the table and chair in front of Ross Dining Hall.

Robert Indiana's "Love" is among the most frequently copied images of recent times. The 1973 creation arranges the letters of the word love into a cube format. The compact structure is painted aluminum yielding a lustrous and engaging surface. "Love" is situated outside the Center for the Arts near the athletic fields. Allen likes the sculpture because "it is so perfectly hidden from a lot of the eyes on campus, but when one does see it they receive such a nice reminder from the beauty of it." Resident Brit Anna North '05 said it best: "I like it because it makes a statement, and we could all do with a bit more 'love' in our lives!"

Atop a boulder at Youngman Field and Alumni Stadium stands "The Middlebury Panther." This bronze sculpture composed by Lorenzo Ghiglieri resonates with Middlebury pride. In 1922 a local merchant organized a contest to select a symbol for the college, and as you presume, the logo of the black panther was the winner. The Panther has become an icon of the College. Erwin highlighted, "I most like the panther because I think it is a good-looking sculpture, but also because it inspires school spirit. It really makes me think positively about being associated with the Middlebury mascot."

Scott Burton's "Bench and Table" earned compliments for being conventional. To create the chair and table, Burton applied a minimalist idiom. Berkowitz explained, "It is asethetically pleasing to the eye in addition to being functional and usable."

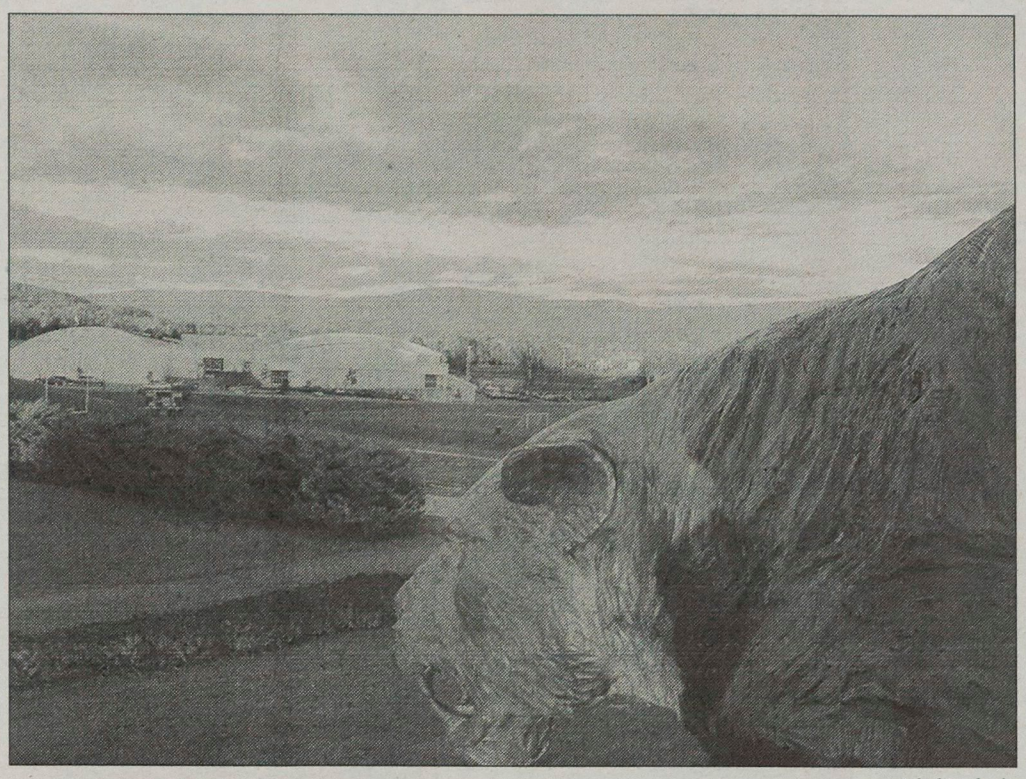
In polling the student body about the works on campus, I made sure to ask about the controversial "Smog" sculpture situated outside of Bicentennial Hall. The description of the sculpture delineates: "The sculpture is composed of octahedrons that create a lattice of positive and negative spaces. The cool metallic beauty and rhythm of its complex forms seem to have come into being by efflorescence, possessing both the logic of crystals and the passion of living forms."

I think there could have been a piece put there that would have been more aesthetically pleasing and more meaningful to the Middlebury community than something that represents smog.

The work is not a winner among the college crowd. The opinions regarding the geometrically focused form included such phrases as: nothing special, it's an eye-saw, ugly, etc. Allen pointed out, "Every time I walk over to the building I ponder the significance of it. In this way it seems to serve a good purpose of really getting people to think about it and create questions in people's minds."

In summarizing the opinions of public art here at the College, I'd like to quote one of my readers. Berkowitz so keenly stated, "The various sculptures around Middlebury are diverse and express the creativity and thoughtfulness that is so evident in our college community."

— CHRIS GROSSO, ARTS EDITOR



Vlad Lodoaba

Lorenzo Ghiglieri's "The Middlebury Panther" overlooks the the Athletic Complex and the surrounding landscape. The sculpture is one of several outdoor pieces on campus.

LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING

TITLE
THE DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS
AUTHOR
JOHN WYNDHAM
PUBLICATION DATE
1951

First published in 1951, John Wyndham's "The Day of the Triffids" is so good that it will single-handedly erase a lifetime of bias against the science fiction genre. As a rule, I never read novel sci-fi or fantasy (I can hardly stomach magical realism), but I made an exception in this case. My dad was importunate. "You have to read this," he said, "It's the best science fiction novel in English."

The novel hooks readers and then haunts them afterward. Bill Masen, his eyes covered in bandages, misses the most spectacular meteorite shower the world has ever seen — an event for the ages. The novel opens the morning after. It should be a morning like any other but the world is preternaturally silent. His curiosity turning into concern, Masen decides to remove his bandages.

Discovering that his eyes have not been permanently damaged by the mishap that put him in the hospital, Masen breathes a sigh of relief. He wanders out of his room and into a world gone blind.

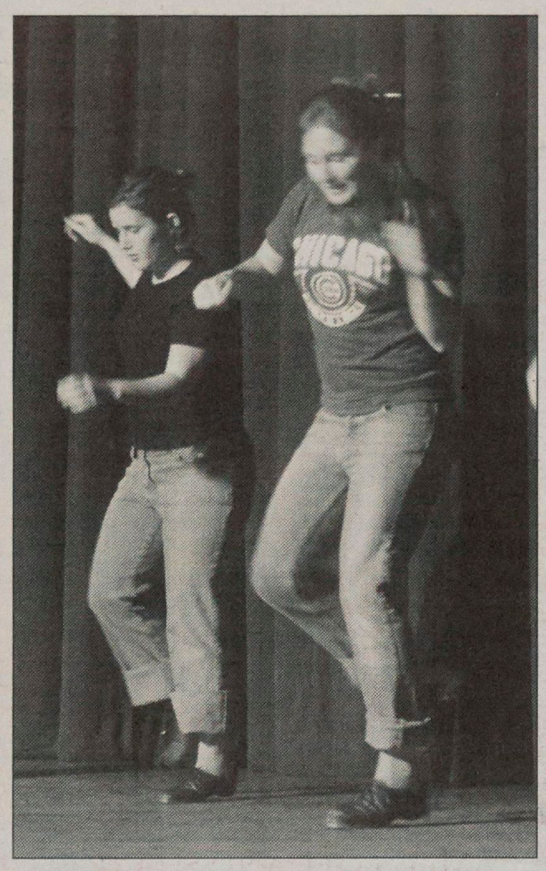
The meteorite shower, a spectacle of unmatched brilliance, destroyed the sight of everyone who viewed it. Masses of helpless people wander the streets, calling out in their misery. The newly blind, dumbfounded by their misfortune, grope their way down the back-alleys and lanes of all London. The countryside hasn't fared any better. Indeed, it appears that the whole world has suffered the same fate.

Masen has awoken into a post-apocalyptic future. He bands together with the lucky few who, for whatever reason, failed to glimpse the cosmic fireworks. He and his cohorts are faced with the daunting task of rebuilding society. Their odds of success would have been much higher were it not for the awful presence of the triffids — strange plants of unknown origin that mysteriously began appearing a decade or so before the catastrophe.

Reaching seven feet in height, the Triffids are mobile man-eaters. They lash their victims with a poisonous stinger. With no one to keep them confined, the triffids escape from their pens. Picture a garden, peaceful as a Sunday afternoon, in which they are two figures present—a blind woman, who only last week could see, and a hulking plant, silent as a whisper, stalking her. Scenarios like this play themselves out all across Britain. Millions die, afraid to venture outside, where the triffids await them.

Like all sci-fi plotlines, Wyndham's sounds a tad melodramatic, if not ridiculous, when summarized. But as a repeat-reader of "The Day of the Triffids," I can vouch for the novel. It is intelligently written and embraces some to the main concerns of the West in the 1950s: biological warfare and menace of nuclear war. The novel is a guilty pleasure.

On-Tap in step with spring in annual show



Left: JennyBess Cass '07 looks on as fellow troupee Joy Bloser '06 taps away. Below: Bloser and the On-Tap crew dance in sync during the dance troupe's annual spring show. The performance, entitled "Everything Old is New Again" featured an array of tap and jazz numbers in addition to a series of costume changes.

Photos by Albert Bitici

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Sullivan shines on field and pitch

Hard of hearing, first-year athlete stays 'one step ahead'

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

Ask teammates of Colleen Sullivan '07, and they will tell you that she is a talented, brash, outgoing, over-committed first-year who has quickly stepped into key roles as a starter on the rugby and softball team. If they remember, they might also mention that she is deaf. "She's probably one of the most amazing athletes I've seen in a long time," said rugby club President Devin Green '04. "She's outgoing, really personable, and really, really determined."

Sullivan, fly-half on the Division III champion rugby team and rightfielder for the powerhouse Middlebury softball team, has been playing sports almost her entire life. She began playing softball in third grade in her native Concord, Mass., and by high school she was a tri-sport athlete on the soccer, basketball and softball teams. Her love of sports, and softball in particular, however, occasionally came with some pitfalls. "Some of my coaches in high school were not accommodating. They just didn't play me because they didn't want to deal with it," she said.

Here at Middlebury, however, Sullivan quickly hit her stride. "At first we were a little worried about what it would be like," said softball Captain Christina Freyer '04. "But it hasn't been a problem at all. She pretty much hasn't made a mistake all year. She's a perfect fit on the team."

"I thought there would be a few more issues with it," said softball Head Coach Diane Boettcher. "It's amazing her ability to fit seamlessly with what we do."

Courtesy

Despite being hard-of-hearing, Colleen Sullivan '07 has made herself a valuable member of both the women's rugby team and the varsity softball team, both on the field and from the sidelines as she cheers her teammates on.

Sullivan is not completely deaf. Rather, she describes herself as being hard-of-hearing, and is helped somewhat by hearing aids for the condition she has had since birth. Being hard-of-hearing, however, has certainly never hampered her from leading an active life. Along with her two sports, she is already a member of MCAB and is on the SGA Institutional Affairs Committee.

Out on the playing fields Sullivan is anything but a shrinking violet. "She is sort of the life of the party," said Boettcher. "She's the kind of person who says out loud what everyone else was thinking."

Sullivan had never before played rugby when she decided to throw her hat in the ring this fall. "I'd never actually seen a game before I got here. At the first practice I was kind of weirded out. I decided I'd give it a week, and then I fell in love with it." Sullivan found a perfect solution to the potential dilemma of not being able to hear her teammates. She simply took the position — fly half — responsible for calling the plays for the rest of the squad. As such, she became a key member of this year's New England champion team that earned the right to play in Division II next year.

Out on the softball field Sullivan has been an important part of her team's 20-6 record, platooning right field with fellow first-year Lily Hamburger. She and her teammates have worked out systems that allow the talented first-year to play to her full potential, making visual signs rather than yelling to help her know where to throw the ball. Still, much of the onus for performing well rests with her alone.

Unable to hear the crack of the bat or throwing instructions from teammates, Sullivan has to maintain staunch focus on the field in order to know the play. "I have to be one step ahead. I just have to decide what the situation is and know what I'm going to do if the ball is hit to me." Boettcher noted that such constant concentration is a positive influence for Sullivan's teammates. "It's a key in order for us to be successful. Four years ago, before we were successful, everyone wanted to have their decisions called out to them on every play. Having a player who's hearing is impaired, knowing that we have to know what we're doing ahead of time, it has made us better as a team."

Like many two-sport athletes at Middlebury, Sullivan has to deal with conflicting seasons and can't compete in spring rugby. "Softball has kind of taken over my life. [The rugby players] keep saying they are going to kidnap me."

Sullivan has been a vocal team player in both of her sports. "She's really, really funny," said Freyer. "She totally brings up the spirit of the team and is one of the loudest people on the bench." Indeed, Freyer's biggest lament about Sullivan being hard of hearing is that her teammates can't cheer her on when she is at bat. "You want to say nice things, but you're not sure if she can hear us."

For Sullivan, playing sports at Middlebury has been a positive experience. "My coaches here have been great — my teammates too. You can be on the best team in the world, but you're not going to enjoy yourself if you don't get along with your teammates."

Her fellow teammates benefit from her example as well. "She's an inspiration pretty much to all of us," said Freyer. "She doesn't let [being hard of hearing] stop her. She never uses it as an excuse. She just encourages me to play that much harder. She's a positive force, period."

Track and Field performs well at NESCACs

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

The Middlebury College track and field teams took a trip down to Trinity last weekend for the NESCAC Championship, and finally had an opportunity to test themselves against the best in the East. With the focus of the event on picking up points for the team rather than individual times, it made for a more team-oriented mentality. When all was said and done, with strong performances from a variety of athletes, the women claimed the third spot, while the men came in sixth.

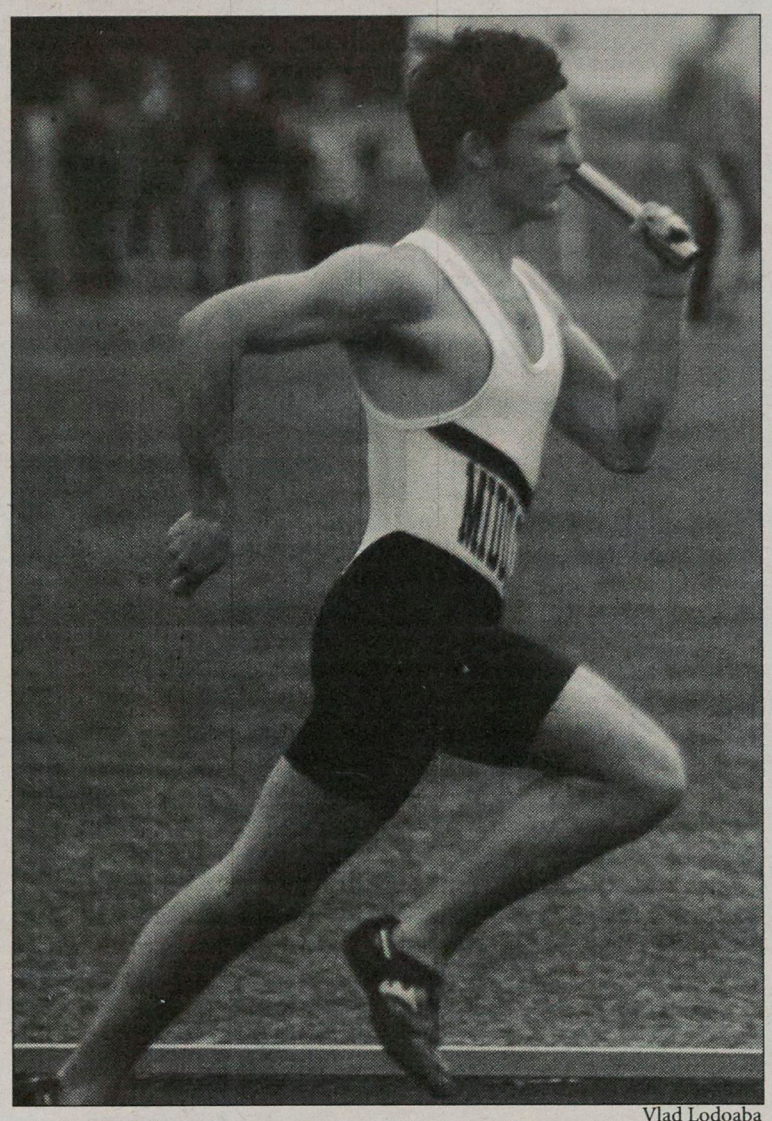
Maryanne Porter '04, competing in her final NESCAC Championships, left her seal on the day, winning the 400m hurdles in a time of 1:05.53. She was pushed hard to the line by Afton Johnson of Williams, but broke the tape 17-hundredths of a second earlier. Jessica Manzer '05, 800m extraordinaire, led the Middlebury women in the 800m as she has done all year, coming home in 2:28.41, good enough for second place. Molly Yazwinski '04 claimed the other second-place finish for the track women when she covered all 10,000m of her race in 37:59.14. Porter and Manzer weren't done yet though. They teamed up with Margery Glover '04 and first-year Claire Schultz to lead the 4x800 relay team to another silver medal for Middlebury, breaking the tape in 9:33.20. Melissa Thacker '05 led the Middlebury contingent in the 400m with her outstanding run, earning fourth place. She commented, "It was a great meet and we did well as a team. I was really happy with how I did as I've been struggling a bit. It was great to have a good race, especially as the conditions weren't great and we were battling the wind all the time."

In the field, Jennifer Marsh '04 and Renee Courchesne '06 made the highlight reel with their performances in the hammer and discus respectively. Marsh's throw of 154' was good enough to qualify her for the NCAA Championships that are right lie on the horizon. There was nothing to separate Meira Lifson '07 and Sarah Berkowitz '05 in the pole vault, as they finished locked in a tie for third place after climbing to 9' 6" in the event. Whitney Creed '06 provided another highlight for the women in the field as she rewrote the Middlebury history books with a mammoth throw of 38'9" in the shot put.

On the men's side, Nick Digani '05, who has dominated the 800m all season, turned in another lightening-fast run, good enough for second, stopping the clock at 1:55.14, less than a tick behind Jack Morgan of Amherst. Digani commented, "The 800m was a good race. I was out in front most of the race and got passed, but I was generally happy with it." He went on to say, "The team as a whole did really well. We were on last year so we're moving in the right direction." The other top five finish for the men on the track came from Matt Engler '06 who claimed fourth place in the 110m hurdles. Kevin Bright '06, seeded first in the 400m hurdles, was cruelly denied a chance to win the event he has made his own, when he sustained a knee injury in the long jump, although it won't impede his performance in the competitions to come.

In the field, Kristoph Becker '06 had by far the best personal day of any Middlebury competitor, claiming an unprecedented three top-three finishes. Becker, who won the javelin competition last year as a first-year, defended his title, launching his spear 180'8", a full 13 feet further than anyone else. He went on to throw his discus 140', and then jump 6' in the high jump, earning second and third place respectively. Steve Atkinson '06, solid all year in the javelin, earned third place in the event with his throw of 165' 2" on the day.

The Division III New England Championships is next on the agenda for this talented conglomeration of athletes. The women will travel to Springfield College on Friday, with the men traveling to Williams on Saturday. With the season drawing to a close for many of the athletes, every event takes on added significance, especially for the departing seniors.



Vlad Lodoaba

Liam Aiello '05 takes the baton in the 4x100 relay this past weekend. The Panther men finished sixth in the race and in the meet overall.

Men's lacrosse squeaks past ninth-place Bantams

By David Freedman
Sports Editor

Two steps forward, one step back. The men's lacrosse team's 11-10 victory over Trinity College on Saturday demonstrated in 60 minutes just how poignant Middlebury's bouts with consistency have been all year long.

After running all over the Bantams in the first quarter, the Panthers had built a 6-0 lead before Trinity took its second shot of the game. However, with 10 minutes left in the game, Middlebury was down 10-9 before it found its first quarter intensity again.

"I just think that we haven't put together a complete game lately," the team's leading scorer Mike Saraceni '04 said. "We have shown spurts of what we are capable of, though. In our last three games we've had one or two great quarters each game. Against Trinity we had a great first quarter and opened up a six-goal lead. I think a lot of people thought the game was over, but [Trinity] battled back."

Men's Lacrosse

Saturday, April 24

Middlebury	11
Trinity	10

The Bantams raced out of the halftime break scoring the third quarter's first three goals before Charley Howe '04 beat the goaltender up high with four minutes left in the period to make the game 9-7.

Albert Bitici

Junior Mark Foster attacks the Trinity Bantams' defense during the Panthers' 11-10 NESCAC league victory. The ninth ranked Bantams gave Middlebury quite a scare this past weekend before the Panthers eventually triumphed.

Senior Andrew Giordano got involved on Middlebury's next two goals, knotting the game at 10 off a feed from Howe with eight minutes remaining. Three minutes later Tom O'Connor '04 laid out a Trinity player moving in transition at midfield that allowed Giordano to pick up the ground ball to set-up the play for Howe's game-winning goal.

Howe led the team with three goals and an assist, while Saraceni put home a goal himself and dished out three assists as well. Aaron Herter '06 put home a pair and Dave Leach '05 added a goal and assist each.

"Instead of building off of the successes of the first half, we come out in the second half either complacent or uptight, it's difficult to pinpoint," Head Coach Erin Quinn commented. "The third quarter was lackluster on both ends of the field. We had too many unforced turnovers to ever get anything going on the offensive end. At the other end, they scored a couple and then there was no way we were going to pull away, they were too much into the game and loose and we were too uptight."

With a surge of energy the Panthers took control of possession for the last five minutes of the quarter limiting Trinity to one good shot on net the rest of the way. Tri-captain Greg Bastis '04 ran out the waning seconds left on the clock to end the game anti-climactically.

"Our league is strong, and every team has a couple of good players that can carry them" Saraceni said when prompted about the team's struggles to put teams away. "Every team is going to battle with us. In order to succeed we have to accept that, and play all 60 minutes with the same intensity and focus the way we have had in the past."

A true bright spot on the otherwise rough outing for the Panthers was first-year Peter Mellen's play at face-offs. Middlebury won 17 of 25 opportunities at the X, with Mellen playing a major factor in most of those successes.

"He battled for groundballs all game long and didn't take one single play off," Saraceni added. "If we can do that as a team, I like our chances."

The Panthers look to continue their league success as they make their final push toward the national playoffs and ultimately, the title.

Softball to face Bowdoin

Continued from page 32

run counts. Our bats have really been hot lately and that's what's necessary to succeed in NESCAC," noted McCarthy.

In game one versus Lyndon State, Middlebury's Jennifer Williams '07 and Lyndon State's Ashlea Ireland matched each other pitch for pitch until the end.

It wasn't until Williams helped her own cause by knocking in Lauren Battaglia '06 in the top of the seventh to score the game's only run. The Hornets were only able to come up with two hits as Williams powered her way to nine strikeouts and her fifth win.

The Panthers' offense slugged out 15 runs on 15 hits in the second game to cap the doubleheader. Williams drove in four runs and went 2-4 with a run.

First-baseman Lauren Guza '05 and catcher Michaela George '04 each had three hits apiece. Lauren Bowe '04 pitched superbly, allowing one unearned run over seven innings in the 15-1 victory.

Later in the week the Panthers earned their 17th and 18th wins of the season, breaking last year's record of 17 wins with a sweep over Skidmore. Middlebury cruised to 8-0 and 12-4 victories.

The first game was scoreless for five innings until the Panthers decided to put some runs of the board. They rallied for one run in the sixth, then Ellen Sargent '07 slapped a two-run double in a seven-run seventh to secure the victory.

The team received encouraging news as McCarthy came back from her quad injury to strike out the side in the last inning of the first game. Williams pitched the first six, striking out four and walking one.

"This injury has led me to appreciate and take advantage of every precious moment I have on the field with my team. It was awful having to sit on the sidelines the past two weeks, but now that I'm healthy again I'm motivated to pitch my best and have so much fun doing it," said McCarthy upon return from her injury.

In the nightcap the Panthers continued the rally they started in the first game, exploding for 11 runs in the first three innings. Every starter got on base in the strong team effort.

Centerfielder Christina Freyer '04, first baseman Williams and designated hitter McCarthy had two RBI's each. Bowe continued her strong pitching, picking up her sixth win of the season.

Said Freyer of her hot hitting, "I've just been trying to imagine the JUGS machine up there when I'm batting."

Freyer's bat led the Panthers to 11-1 and 2-0 victories against NESCAC opponent Hamilton over the weekend. In the first game she launched a souvenir ball over the fence for a three-run homer, her second of the season.

Freyer was 4-4 in the game and also scored three times. Leftfielder Victoria Glowacky '06 capped a six-run sixth by knocking in three runs to end the game by way of the mercy rule. McCarthy pitched six innings to earn her first victory since coming back from her injury.

In the third inning of the second game, Freyer singled in George, 2-3 on the day, for the Panthers' first run. Later that inning the Continentals learned that walks kill, as Glowacky walked with the bases loaded for Middlebury's second run.

The Panthers won behind strong performances by Bowe and Williams. The two pitchers combined to pitch a six-hit shutout, and neither pitcher gave up a walk.

Regular season play ended yesterday as the Panthers hosted Norwich for two games. The NESCAC tournament will open tomorrow with the Panthers playing Bowdoin in a first round matchup at Williams College.

The Panthers hope to avenge a 6-2 loss suffered on the first day of the team's Florida trip.

Said McCarthy of the upcoming tournament, "Our team has gone through so many changes since the first game with Bowdoin. We're definitely up for the challenge, and I think that we can take it."

RETURNING HOME

Albert Bitici

With alumni making their way back to the playing fields, the Middlebury men's rugby team played alongside their predecessors in a friendly match this past weekend.

ANGRYPETER

BY PETER YORDAN

I don't purposefully try to ruffle feathers when I write my columns, but I suspect I will do so today, so let me just get it out of the way all at once. I can't stand cheerleading, and I think it is silly that we have it at our school. I say this on the heels of being asked by my hardworking editors to write a feature about the cheerleading squad. I politely declined in favor of the feature I wrote this week.

I was familiar with the idea — it seems like once a year or so the cheerleaders manage to force their way into our sports pages. Over my semesters as sports editor the cheerleading club regularly pestered us to write glowing stories about their achievements. *The Campus* includes coverage of other club teams like rugby and crew, went the argument, so why shouldn't it cover the cheerleading squad too? I suppose I can't deny the logic in that, but it's never stopped me from trying to avoid the "sport."

There is nothing to stop like-minded people at Middlebury from getting together to do something like form a cheerleading club, but that doesn't mean I have to consider it in the same breath as rugby. I suppose it is hard work — its devotees, hell-bent on legitimizing themselves, constantly trumpet the dedication and training required for success. But you know what? Lots of things require work and dedication, and at the end of the day cheerleading still seems like a cheapened version of dance better left to warm-weather state universities and the like. It seems horribly out-of-place in a NESCAC school. Now I'm sure proponents of cheerleading will tell you that "cheer" competitions go on in all 50 states and in over 80 billion countries around the world, but it just feels wrong here.

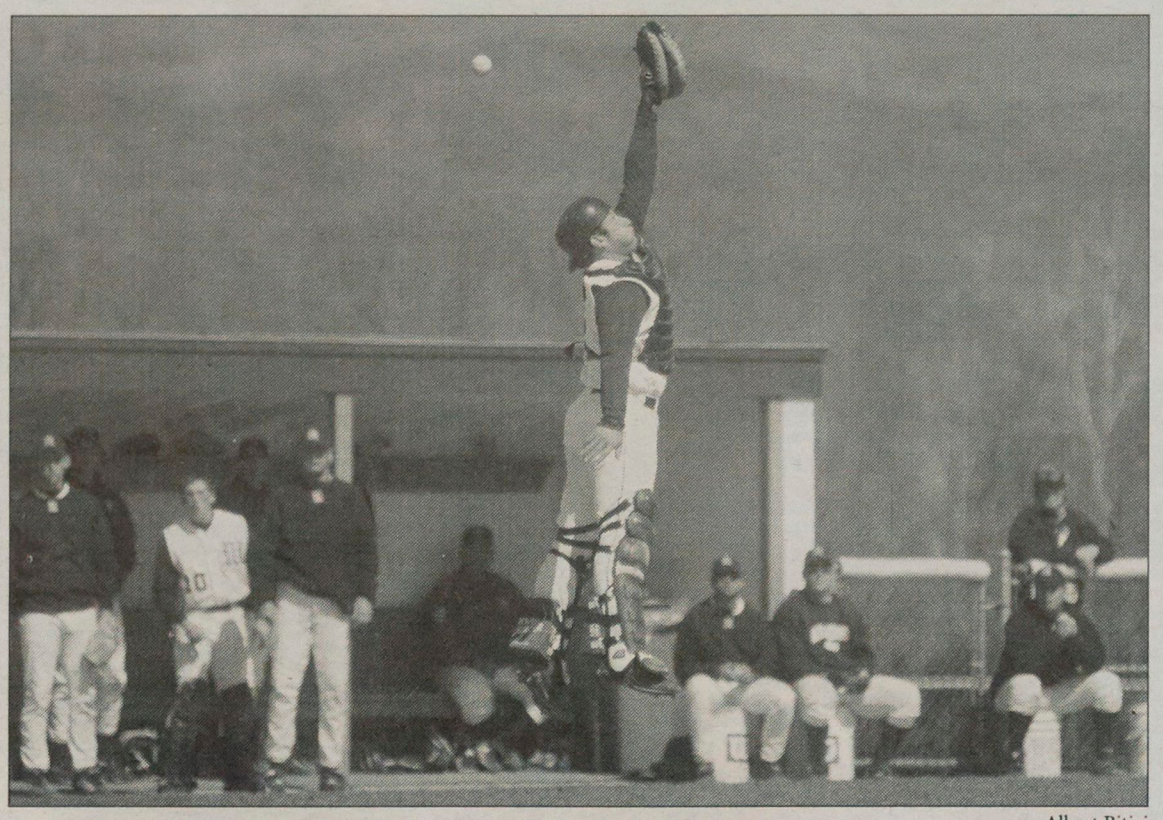
The core of cheerleading is based on exhibitionism, not athleticism. Despite all of the teamwork in showy flips and convoluted pyramids, the fundamental value that cheerleading teaches is how to distract a crowd with mindless showy sex appeal. Somehow that seems out of step with the college's athletic philosophy.

Most of our cheering at sporting events is refreshingly spontaneous and organic — groups of fans working together to chant and clap. When our cheerleaders take the floor at basketball games it just seems so artificial. And you have to wonder, do other women athletes at Middlebury even respect cheerleaders and what they are doing — cheering on male athletes with their make-up and giggly cheer routines?

Cheerleading is not a natural part of the Middlebury athletic experience, where the emphasis is on activity, not entertainment and showmanship. I don't bear any ill will toward the surely hard-working, passionate members of the squad. I just don't think their efforts should be in the sports pages.

Baseball positions for postseason berth

By Ryan Reese
Sports Editor



Albert Bitici
Sophomore Andrew Pavoni attempts a leaping grab down the third baseline as the Panthers push for a playoff spot.

The Middlebury men's baseball team had a long home stand this week in which solid competition traveled to Addison County. After traveling to St. Michael's, the Panthers hosted Castleton State as well as a NESCAC twinbill against the league-leading Trinity Bantams who thoroughly tested the Panther squad. Middlebury was able to win three of five over the course of the week as they beat up St. Michael's and split with Castleton State and Trinity.

Last Wednesday, Middlebury made its way up Route 7 in order to face St. Michael's. They made the most of their time in Burlington, pounding out 16 hits and 13 runs, as the ever-present offensive attack was as sharp as ever. The day's MVP award would undoubtedly go to Ryan Armstrong '06 as he dominated the St. Michael's pitching staff on his way to going 4-5 on the day. He had three extra base hits that included two doubles as well as his team leading third home run. When asked about the team's astounding consistency with offensive production, Armstrong noted, "That was expected. We have known about our ability to produce runs since winter practices. We had some key players graduate but we knew that we had the players to replace them offensively. Hopefully the offense will continue to come easily." Ben Christensen '04 earned the win after coming on in relief.

The wind proved to be quite a factor during last Saturday's doubleheader against Castleton State. Both games ended up being dogfights until the final at bat as both contests made their way to extra frames. Middlebury came up short in the first contest as its in-state foes erupted for seven runs in the extra eighth inning to slam the door on the Panthers' chances. Dave Reister '05, Jim Muhlfield '04 and Abe Streep '04 each provided the Panther offense with two hits. Christensen suffered the loss in the tight contest that ended with the unexpected outburst of Castleton's offensive firepower.

The second game also seemed a little out of reach for Middlebury. Not wanting to be outdone by Castleton's offensive explosion, the Panthers ripped seven runs in the fourth to take a 9-8 lead. Castleton clawed back to tie the game in the seventh in order to force extra innings. This time, the Panthers did not crumble as Bryan Lodigiani '05 answered the call as he singled to center and plated Ryan Armstrong to clinch the victory. Including the game winner, Lodigiani had two hits for the Panther cause, as did Reister and Liam Quinn '05. Muhlfield had a complete game while providing the Panthers with excellent pitching and several solid plate appearances. He came on in relief to earn the win and he also went 2-3 on the day while batting in two runs.

Last Sunday, the Bantams of Trinity rolled in to town and they brought their reputation as being one of the nation's top Division III teams with them. Middlebury refused to be intimidated as it stole one from the NESCAC leading Bantams and truly should have grabbed both games. The Panthers dominated the first contest on their way to an 8-3 victory. Armstrong and Muhlfield got the ball rolling in the fourth as both sluggers recorded two-run doubles. Joe Ramoin '05 added two knocks and two RBI. Reister tossed a gem during his 5.33 innings work to notch the victory and Chris Fraser '04 rocked his relief duties and only allowed one hit.

The second game was a heartbreaker for the Panthers, as they looked poised to earn the comeback win. Behind the bat of Armstrong, Middlebury athletes rallied back from a 3-0 deficit and found themselves back one run in the bottom of the seventh. They were able to load the bases in the final at bat but could not muster up the much needed hit. They stranded the runners as they took the disappointing 3-2 loss. Russ Budnick '05 took the loss on the hill.

This upcoming weekend will determine the fate of the Panther season as NESCAC West foe Amherst will come to Forbes Field for a three game series. The team that emerges from the weekend with two victories will qualify for the NESCAC playoffs. As both teams sit with a 4-5 league record, there is no doubt that the weekend will bring solid play with obvious postseason consequences.

Armstrong noted, "We are very confident against Amherst. Everything is going well and we are peaking at the perfect time of year."

Women's lacrosse eyes NESCAC semis

Vlad Lodoaba
Sophomore Channing Weymouth holds off a challenge from Bowdoin's defense.

Continued from page 32

the half. The Panthers defense, as expected, was stifling, allowing only seven in the contest, and not allowing Williams any goals or even very many opportunities for a 22-minute period in the second stanza. When they did get shots on goal, Sarah Grenert '04 kept the door locked on any possible offensive activity for the Ephs. The Middlebury offense was paced by senior captain Nuala O'Donohoe, who had six goals and two assists in the affair. O'Donohoe has been the offensive sparkplug all season, scoring almost twice as many goals as anyone else on the team, leading all scorers in almost every single game the team has played.

Other top scorers in Wednesday's contest were sophomore Schuyler Winstead, who punished the defense with five goals and one dime, and Elizabeth Renehan '06, who dropped three goals and three assists. First-year standout Kim Walker continued her bid for Rookie of the Year — an award that went to Renehan last year — with two goals.

On Saturday, with the stakes the highest they've been since the game against Amherst, Middlebury was again all business, jumping to a 13-2 lead in the first half and never looking back. It was a macabre game for Bates, who stood no chance against the tyrannical talent of its opponents. The Panthers didn't let a single highlight go to the Mainers. O'Donohoe scored three goals and three assists, Winstead poured in four more buckets, and Johanna Rosenfield '05 played fantastic in the net. Perfection is a curious, unique thing, blessing very few with the warm glow of ultimate success.

The win on Saturday entered the 2004 Panthers into the upper echelons of accomplishment. But they refuse to accept this meager achievement. If they can keep their phenomenal team chemistry and attitude parallel with their explosive, awe-inspiring talent for the next couple of weeks, only then the team will really have something to celebrate.

Crew looks to the Dad Vail

Rowers hope to qualify for championship regatta

By Emily Berlanstein
Staff Writer

The tremendous effort put forth by the Middlebury crews each season hinges on the last two weekends of April. The championship series, which includes the New England Fours Championships and the New England Championships, provides Middlebury the opportunity to build upon its previous successes in NESCAC and to qualify for the Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia, which is considered a national championship for Division III rowing.

The New England Fours regatta, which occurred last Saturday in Lowell, Mass., was an excellent showing for the Middlebury boats. Once again, the novice women dominated in their division, as both the first and second novice fours finished first in the finals. The first boat of Olivia Bailey '07, Nura Suleiman '07, Kathryn Babin '07, Anna Einstein '07 and Rebecca Hollewijn '07 showed excellent form and tremendous power in the final leg of their race as they overtook Bowdoin in the last 700 meters, while the second boat cruised to victory.

The varsity lightweight women were surprised to find that all of their competition had scratched, and they were entered in the second varsity event, which includes all open weight boats. The boat of coxswain Jillian Everly '04, Allison Lange '06, Lauren Miller '04, Sarah Moberg '06 and Katie Devine '06 were only lighter than the competition in weight as they finished second in the morning heat and only 2.5 seconds short of third place in an extremely competitive final. The open women's second varsity boat of coxswain Stephanie Prichard '06, Taylor Bolz '04, Betsy Sullivan '04.5, Sara Hayes '05 and Emily Loesche '05 won their morning event convincingly and took second place in the same event as the lightweight-turned-open boat. Their final time was faster than many of the men's boats in the regatta.

The first varsity boat of coxswain Everly, Becky Latka '04, Emily Berg '05, Meredith Coburn '07.5 and Carolyn Gersh '04, also won their first head and took third place in the finals.

The men's novice team proved themselves amidst a very competitive field, rowing against perennial New England powerhouses.

— Nora Greenglass '03

The collective women's team narrowly missed winning the points trophy, which was decided on the results of the first varsity four final. Finally, the trophy was awarded to Bowdoin, however, the results were much closer than in previous years. The many medals acquired overall and the tremendous performance by the novice women "foretells the ascendancy of Middlebury's women in NESCAC rowing," said Coach Alex Machi.

The men's team showed considerable improvement this weekend. The varsity first four of coxswain Camden Burton '06.5, Luke Mueller '04, Ricky Klein '07, Matt Daylor '06 and Steve Gangemi '04 was unable to make it out of their heat, but the second varsity boat earned a spot in the finals with an almost identical time. The second varsity four fell just short of a medal, taking fourth place.

The novice men, many of whom are new to rowing, demonstrated excellent progress, beating teams they had previously lost to. The lineup of Brooke Adams '07, Matt Griswold '07, Dave Wood '07.5, Steve O'Banion '07 and Louis Paolella '07 just missed the finals, falling in a very competitive first round.

The second novice four of Adams, Ian Hough '07, Neil D'Astolfo '07, Dave Walker '07 and Stuart Hurt '07 emerged from their heat successfully, en route to a third place finish in the finals. Novice Coach Nora Greenglass '03 commented, "The novice men's team showed its strength and depth this weekend. These nine athletes, most of whom rowed for the first time just two months ago, proved themselves amidst a very competitive field, rowing against perennial New England powerhouses."

Next Saturday, both the men's and women's teams will compete at New England Championships in Worcester, Mass. The crews will face a larger field of competition, including reigning national champions in the women's varsity eight, Colby College, as well as powerhouses Williams College, Coast Guard Academy, Trinity College and Bowdoin College. New England's will be the true test of how far Middlebury crew has come this spring and an indication of what next season holds for these dedicated few.

Men's tennis turns to NCAAs

Continued from page 32

Bates' prodigy Will Boe-Wiegaard took the top singles title from Edmunds, coming back after losing the first set to win (3-6, 6-1, 6-1). Amherst captured the top seeded doubles title with Danny Babkes and Josh Rilla winning over Tufts' Jon Bram and Rifat Perahya in a heated battle that came down to the wire (9-7). In total, Middlebury players advanced to the final of every flight except for #1 doubles. That is true domination.

The event also unveiled a series of individual awards with Middlebury again dominating. Edmunds took Player of the Year rights, while Mayer took Rookie of the Year. Furthermore, Coach of the Year was split, with Jane Patterson of Bowdoin and Dave Schwarz of Middlebury shared the award.

"The whole team would agree that it was really nice to see him win it," commented Co-Captain Alex Meditz '05. "It was extremely well deserved. Without a doubt, he is the hardest working and most focused coach in the NESCAC, if not the country." The Chaffee Award went to Andrew and Daniel Murray of Williams. So in summary, Middlebury took three of the four major individual honors given.

Middlebury also had two of the six spots of the first-team All NESCAC singles squad, the only team to do so. Edmunds and Waldron were given the honor along with Bates' Boe-Wiegaard, Macafee Burke of Bowdoin, Daniel Murray of Williams and Rifat Perahya of Tufts.

"Everyone played very well this weekend," explained Meditz. "Our best tennis, however, is still ahead of us. This weekend should give us the momentum and confidence necessary to put in a strong showing at NCAAs."

Edmunds added, "It's definitely exciting to win NESCACs, especially because Williams has won it so many years in a row. At the same time, however, I think we all have goals we're still trying to reach, so I'd hardly say we're satisfied with what we have accomplished. This weekend we're going to have to play a tough team, so hopefully we'll carry the momentum from NESCACs and use it to win regionals."

Middlebury proved its billing all year long that it was and is the best team in the East. What remains to be seen, however, is whether Middlebury is the best team in the country. NCAA Championships are next, with the Panthers hosting a regional on home courts for the third consecutive year this weekend, and the finals on May 12 to 17 at Bates' College in Lewiston, Maine, if Middlebury can get past the winner of M.I.T. and Trinity.

Courtesy

The Panther men celebrate their title victory and look to NCAA success.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY DAVID FREEDMAN, SPORTS EDITOR

Tennis takes individual honors

After garnering an historic championship on Sunday, Middlebury's tennis team was recognized with even more accolades for its outstanding season. Nathan Edmunds '06 was named the league's player of the year after 21-5 record in singles and a 9-6 resume in doubles. He won the NESCAC title for #3 doubles alongside fellow sophomore Brian Waldron, who joined Edmunds as a member on the first team All-NESCAC. Edmunds is currently ranked 15th in the nation for Division III. First-year George Mayer was named the NESCAC rookie of the year after an outstanding leap into the college ranks with an 18-3 singles record and an 8-2 doubles record. Head Coach Dave Schwarz shared coach of the year honors with Bowdoin's Jane Patterson. In only four years at Middlebury, Schwarz has been recognized as the league's top coach twice, the first time after his 2002 campaign in which he pushed the program into national prominence.

Tennis regionals announced

The men's and women's tennis teams will take part in the NCAA Championships this coming weekend after both teams were selected by the tournament committees for the competition. The men's team will host a regional for the third consecutive year on May 1 and 2 as one of eight squads to earn the right to play on their home courts among the 27-team field. The Panthers will take on the winner of M.I.T. (11-4) and Trinity (11-1) on May 2 at 12 p.m. for a shot at advancing to the championship week to be hosted at Bates from the 12th to 17th. The women's team will take on Bowdoin (12-6) this Saturday to earn the right to take on NESCAC co-champion Amherst in the second round the next day. This is the second year in a row the women's team has appeared in the 26-team field.

Lax hosts 4th straight tourney

The NESCAC Championship for women's lacrosse has never been played outside of Middlebury College, and thanks to an undefeated regular season that tradition will continue for the fourth straight year as the team earned a first-round bye and will host the remaining semi-final and finals games on May 1 and 2. Since the tournament's inauguration the Panthers have not lost either a regular season game or a NESCAC postseason match. Middlebury will play Bowdoin, the lowest remaining seed, on Peter Kohn Turf Field at 12 p.m. on May 1 for a shot at a fourth straight title. The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships in addition to the NESCAC crown, but with the nation's #1 ranking firmly in the team's hand Middlebury will undoubtedly receive an at-large bid should they falter over this weekend.

Softball format for NESCACs

Albert Bitici

Middlebury's women's softball team made it seem easy getting into the NESCAC tournament, but figuring out the Championship's format may prove to be a formidable task. The four-team field is a double elimination tournament to be hosted by Williams beginning this Friday, April 30. Williams, the top seed from the NESCAC-West, will take on Tufts, the second seed from the NESCAC-East, while Middlebury, the second seed from the NESCAC-West, will take on Bowdoin, the top seed from the NESCAC-East. These first two games will determine the pairing of the Saturday morning match-ups. Both losers of the first round will play in the morning. The loser of this game will be permanently eliminated. Immediately following this will be the game pitting Friday's winners against one another. Later that same afternoon the two teams who split their Friday and Saturday morning games will play for the final spot in Sunday's championship against the tournament's undefeated squad. If the undefeated team should fall on Sunday in the championship, a second game will be played to determine who brings home the title.

O'Donohoe makes it a trifecta

For the third time in four weeks Nuala O'Donohoe '04 was recognized as the NESCAC's player of the week, sharing the honors with rival Ashley Hammeling of Amherst College. The senior tri-captain lead the Panthers in scoring this past week with six goals against Williams and three against Bates to increase her scoring total on the year to 64 points. O'Donohoe continues to pace the team with her offensive production and is still among the top 20 scorers in the nation.

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BASEBALL | SPLIT WITH TRINITY PLACES PLAYOFF FATE ON AMHERST SERIES | 30

GAMES TO WATCH

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
VS. BOWDOIN
MAY 1 | 12 PM | TURF

MEN'S TENNIS
VS. M.I.T. or TRINITY
MAY 2 | 12 PM | PROCTOR

campus sports

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2004

Women's lax to host NESCACs

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

It was an exciting week for the women's lacrosse team. First, in a home field 21-7 drubbing of Middlebury's top athletic rival Williams College, the Panthers clinched the 2004 NESCAC title, a feat some had been expecting and anticipating since early February. Then, on Saturday, in a quiet, unassuming game in Lewiston, Maine, where some 40 years earlier Muhammad Ali dramatically KO'd Sonny Liston for the Heavyweight crown, the Panthers beat Bates College 18-4 to end their regular season undefeated, an accomplishment as impressive as any of the few perfect regular seasons in the history of sports from the 1972 Miami Dolphins to the 2004 St. Joe's basketball squad. Yet while perfection in the regular season is always tremendous, Middlebury has its sights set a little higher, and the team's appetite for victory will not be satiated until they bring home the big one at the end of May.

Women's Lacrosse

Thursday, April 21

Middlebury	21
Williams	7

Saturday, April 24

Middlebury	18
Bates	4

Playing in front of a small audience on Wednesday afternoon, the Panthers went about their business with a workmanlike approach and demeanor, playing for the NESCAC title with a complete of seriousness. Middlebury dismantled Williams bit by bit from the opening bell, scoring the game's first seven goals and jumping out to a 12-4 lead at

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Men's tennis grabs 1st NESCAC title

Panthers dethrone Ephs after 11 straight championships

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

Winning your school's first tennis championship in the program's history is sweet. Toppling your archrival in the process is sweeter. Middlebury's men's tennis team enjoyed doing both on Sunday after maintaining a four-point lead over runner-up Williams College to win the NESCAC Championship 29-26, taking the trophy from the Ephs for the first time in 11 tournaments.

Brian Waldron '06 (#2 singles), George Mayer '07 (#4 singles) and the doubles duo of Nathan Edmunds '06 and Waldron (#3 doubles) all won their flights for the Panthers. "George and Waldo played great ball all weekend," commented Edmunds after the match. "It was exciting to see them dominate their draws."

Middlebury took a four-point lead on Saturday, despite winds that reached over 40 mph. "It was really nuts out there on Saturday," commented Edmunds following the event. "The wind was out of control."

On Sunday, the winds calmed down and the Panthers made their four-point lead last, beating runner-up Williams College by three points. Far behind with 15 points, Tufts managed to edge past Bowdoin for the third spot, winning by a half a point. Williams was able to capture the NESCAC Champions at No. 3 singles, where Jeff Kivitz defeated Middlebury's Ari Beilin '06 in another intense match, lasting three sets, 6-4, 2-6, 7-5.

Scott Mackenzie of Williams took the #5 singles Championship over Justin Ingoglia '05, 6-1, 6-2. Williams also took the #6 singles title, as Lex Urban defeated Alex Scott '07 of Middlebury in a heated battle that went three sets, 7-5, 1-6, 7-6 (5). Finally, Williams took the #2 doubles Championship as well, with John Haywood and Urban defeating Beilin and Scott, 8-6.

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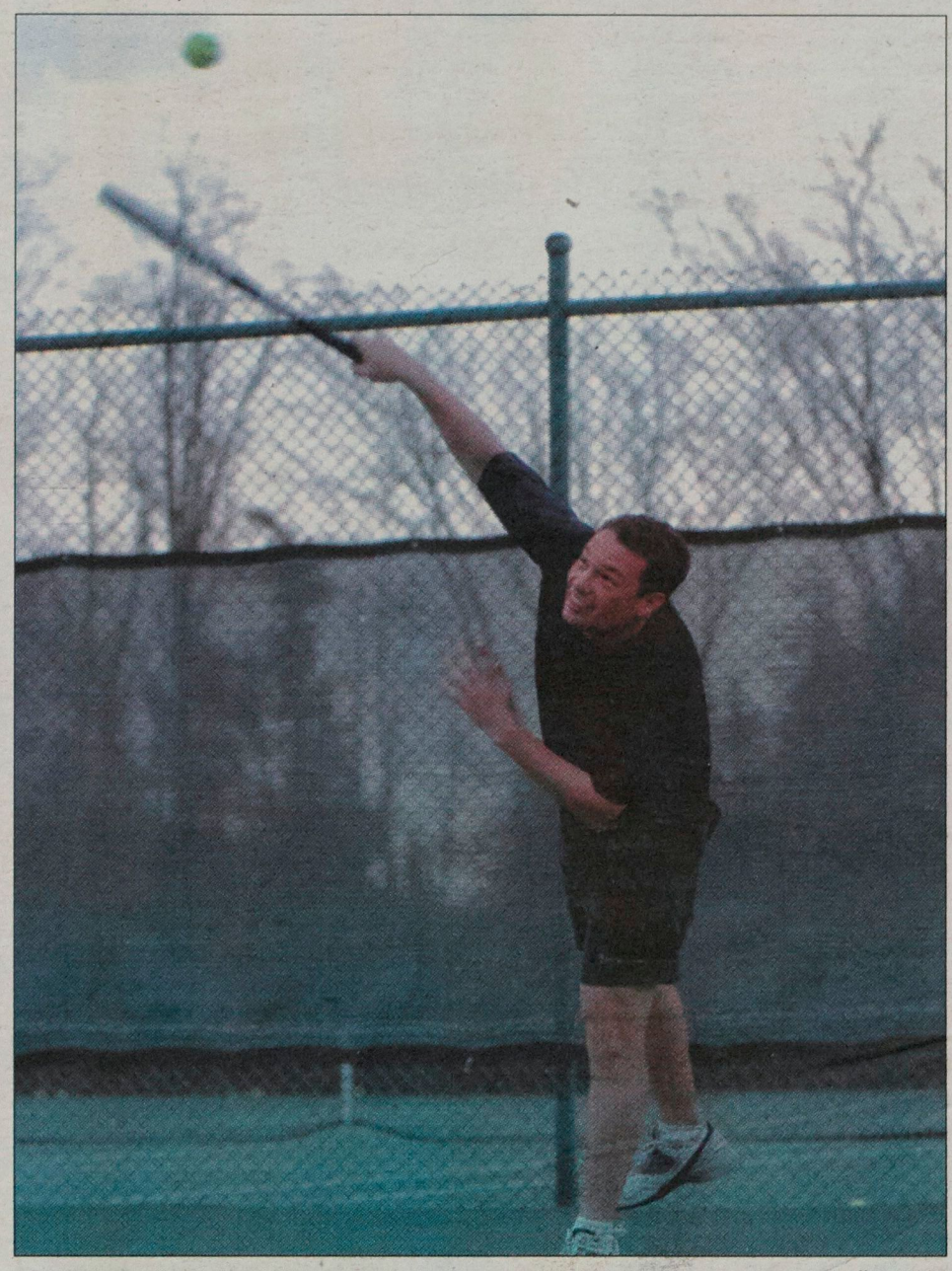

Albert Bitici

Justin Ingoglia '05 tunes up his serve in preparation for last weekend's NESCAC Championship. The Panthers stole the title from the Ephs of Williams, who had won 11 years in a row.

Albert Bitici

Maura Casey '07 focuses on running out a ground ball during Middlebury's successful weekend of NESCAC play.

Softball sets new sights, standards

By Daniel Inadomi
Staff Writer

Winners of eight in a row, the Middlebury softball team (20-6) both set a school record for victories and qualified for the NESCAC tournament last week. The Panthers swept doubleheaders at Lyndon State and Skidmore, and then came home to take two from Hamilton.

The sweep of Hamilton clinched a first-place tie with Williams in the NESCAC West division. Even though the two teams split a doubleheader earlier this season, Williams College will host this weekend's tournament because they outscored the Panthers in the two regular season meetings.

Junior pitcher Megan McCarthy noted that the season has been a huge success. "Ever since my freshman year the team has excelled and set new standards for Middlebury softball. Last year when we went to playoffs we were just so excited to be there that we didn't really have any expectations. But this year, our team has truly proven to be one of the best teams in NESCAC and the top team in our division, and so we're going there to take on the competition and win," she said.

The Panthers saw great pitching go along with a productive offense as they outscored their opponents 49-6.

"We have truly proven to be an offensive powerhouse. We know how to jump on teams early, get the rallies going, and manufacture runs when we need to. It's all about execution and in every game we always play like it's a tie score and that every

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